

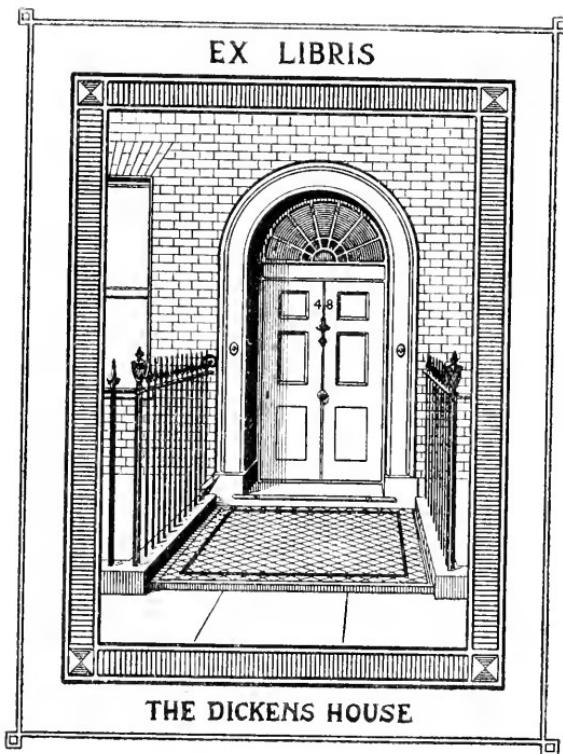
THE
HOUSEHOLD
NARRATIVE
OF
CURRENT EVENTS
1855.

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THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF
CURRENT EVENTS,

(FOR THE YEAR 1855,)

BEING
A MONTHLY SUPPLEMENT TO HOUSEHOLD WORDS,

CONDUCTED BY

CHARLES DICKENS.

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THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 27TH DECEMBER TO THE 27TH JANUARY.

[PRICE 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

BOTH Houses of Parliament re-assembled on Tuesday, the 23rd inst.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS the LORD CHANCELLOR communicated a letter from Admiral Dundas, acknowledging the resolutions of thanks to himself and the officers and men of the *Black Sea Fleet*.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH gave notice that on Thursday next he should move for a *Return of the Number of Troops sent out to the Crimea, distinguishing the infantry, cavalry, and sailors, and also the number of killed, wounded, sick, and otherwise disabled.*

Earl GREY gave notice that on Thursday next he should ask a question of Her Majesty's Government respecting the *Orders sent out to the Commander-in-Chief at the Cape of Good Hope to send home the 12th and 91st Regiments.*

The Duke of RICHMOND moved for a copy of the order *Granting Medals to the Army in the Crimea*. He called attention to the omission of the troops engaged at Balaklava. When your lordships (said the Duke) consider the terms of the despatch in which the battle of Balaklava was communicated by Lord Raglan, who must be regarded as a pretty good judge of what took place, you must acknowledge that the conduct of the Scotch Highlanders in resisting the attack of a vast numerically greater body of Russians was worthy to be deemed a victory; and although overmatched by numbers, as they ultimately were, it was impossible that greater bravery could be displayed. Your lordships ought never to forget, the country can never forget, the splendid conduct of the Light Cavalry under the command of my noble friend, whom I am happy to see in his place, when making a charge in pursuance of orders, which I venture to say it was utterly impossible to carry out. When they found these men, hemmed in as they were by infantry, swept from the field by a continuous discharge of grapeshot, and attacked by an overwhelming force of cavalry, still retiring in full and complete order, surely no man could say that the battle of Balaklava was not worthy of being deemed a victory. Did not the enemy attempt to turn your flank? Did they not attempt to raise the siege of Sebastopol? And was it not owing to the gallant bearing and heroic conduct of the soldiers at the battle of Balaklava that the siege of Sebastopol was not raised? Would this country then, when appealed to, say, that the men so engaged, though not the strongest in the conflict, were not worthy of a reward of merit? I know that I must live to a very late period before I shall ever again have to speak of such actions as those to which I have now alluded. I wish to ask my noble friend (the Duke of Newcastle) upon what ground it is that he has not given this clasp to the men engaged at the battle of Balaklava? I wish also to ask him, whether it is not the intention of the Government to give a copy of the medal to the sailors who landed, and who shared in the dangers and participated in the victories of the army? I wish to know why, when undergoing the same dangers, and discharging equally onerous duties, there should be one rule applied to the soldier, and another to the sailor? It is not necessary for me to state the great value which both soldiers and sailors attach to the possession of medals commemorative of the actions in which they have distinguished themselves. It is admitted that they do

estimate the possession of those medals most highly. Of what use is a vote of thanks by Parliament to a soldier? He might possibly read a paper signed by the Lord Chancellor, and which may do all very well so long as the man remains in his regiment, or in his ship unwounded; but when he becomes a sufferer, and goes back to his village no longer able to serve his country, what then has he to show that he was present in the action in which he has received his disabling wounds? That, then, was the object of a medal. It does what no vote of thanks can do. When the veteran warrior returns to his domestic hearth, his bosom glows with pride as he displays in his breast a token that he, too, has done some service to his country. I must also express my regret that medals are not to be given to the representatives of those who fell in action. I do not think there is any good reason for such a rule. Formerly, the objection to the rule scarcely existed, because the conferring of medals and rewards was so long delayed that it would have been attended with great difficulty to find out the persons to whom the medals should be awarded. But no such difficulty is to be encountered now. The mode of distributing the fund, supported by Her Majesty and which has done such vast credit to the people of England for the manner in which they have subscribed to it, affords ample means of finding out the representatives of those who have fallen in the Crimea. Meritorious as the raising of that fund undoubtedly is, still I could have wished that it had been a compulsory tax on the people at large. I wish it in justice to the good, liberal, and generous portion of that people; for it is well known that the peacemongers, be they few or be they many, have made that cry an excuse not to subscribe at all. Means, then, being found to ascertain who are the proper recipients of the fund thus raised, the same means may be used to discover persons to whom should be given the rewards of honour and of merit. I apologise for bringing this subject before the house, but it is a subject on which I feel most deeply. I am most anxious that justice should be done to our army in the Crimea, for in no period of our history can any instance be quoted where gratitude to our military force was more justly due. The bravery of our men under dangers of every kind has been almost unexampled, and the privations they have had to undergo must be admitted by every one to be of no ordinary character. Well, my lords, for what is it, after all, that I am now making any appeal to Her Majesty's ministers? Were any man to come into this house at the present moment, he would suppose that I was asking for a large grant of public money with which to reward those brave and heroic men whose cause I now plead; but, my lords, all I ask is, that those men, when they return to their country, may go to their homes and cheer their domestic hearths by displaying to their kindred and friends some lasting token of a nation's gratitude for the services they have rendered and the sufferings they have endured.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE said, Considering the interesting nature of the subject which my noble friend has brought under the notice of your lordships, I am confident that your lordships will feel that he has no need of apologising for engaging the attention of the house, but that, on the contrary, every one must feel the greatest interest in a question which involves the honourable reward of those gallant men who have fought the battles of their

country in the Crimea. I am sure there is no one who is more sensible than my noble friend of the difficulties that attend the dispensation of such honours as those to which he has referred. He will admit that it would not be right, in the case of a protracted war, or even of a long campaign, that clasps of honour should be granted to the gallantry of our soldiers in engagements unattended with any important results. I believe, therefore, that, although no general rule has been laid down, yet it is recognised as a principle that clasps should not be granted for general actions except when those general actions have led to victory. I do not think it can be said that the battle of Balaklava was one of those actions, although there can be no doubt that every man engaged in that battle was as fully entitled to a mark of merit as any man engaged either at the battle of Alma or of Inkermann, which unquestionably came under that category. There might, I think, be some doubt, at least, on that point; but, in such a case, the benefit of the doubt ought to be given to the party most interested, and therefore I beg to inform your lordships that Her Majesty has directed that a clasp shall be given for the action of Balaklava. I trust it may not be considered by our military authorities that we are departing from the rules of the army in granting these clasps to the army engaged in the battle of Balaklava; but I do think, after the comments made upon that action, it would be in the highest degree unjust to withhold a mark of honour from those gallant men. My lords, I must say, with all deference to those who have been engaged in other battles, that there cannot be adduced from the annals of warfare, ancient or modern, instances of greater gallantry, or of greater self-devotion, than were shown, both by officers and men, at the battle of Balaklava. Having disposed of this point, I come to the second topic to which the noble duke has referred—namely, the defective distribution of the Crimean medal. Undoubtedly, it was not intended that the medal should be confined to the soldiers only who were engaged in the battles of Alma and Inkermann; nor was it intended to be confined to the sailors; but, in giving the Crimean medal, it was not only granted to the soldiers engaged in those actions, but also to the sailors, who were as highly entitled to it as the soldiers, they having rendered most valuable assistance to the troops. From the very first—it was intended so to dispense the medals, and, if there has been any misapprehension on the subject, I beg to repeat that it has always been intended that the Crimean medal should be given not only to all the officers and soldiers of the army, but to all the members of the navy engaged in that part of the world. I now come to the third point, namely, the granting of medals to the representatives of those who have fallen in battle. I agree with my noble friend, that if the family of those who have fallen in these engagements can derive any consolation from the possession of that medal which would have been given to the member of their family if he had survived, it is right that the country should confer it. My noble friend has correctly observed, that the difficulty which heretofore existed in that respect in consequence of the medals being granted so long after the services for which they were conferred, did no longer exist; and that if a new precedent were set on this occasion, and a retrospective character were given to it, my noble friend would not be unwilling to aid in carrying it out, unless there existed an utter impossibility of doing so. I may, therefore, inform my noble friend and your lordships, that it is proposed by Her Majesty's government that medals shall be given, not only to all the survivors engaged in, but also to the representatives of all the officers and soldiers who fell in the various actions in the Crimea. My noble friend will, of course, see, that in order to render this boon of any value, it is absolutely necessary that the name of the individual should be engraved upon the medal. When first the medal was proposed, it was thought it might be of great advantage to send it out at an early period to the brave men who had earned it by their valour; but in granting the medal in the manner it is now proposed to do, some three or four months must necessarily elapse before it can be completed, and I hope this period of delay will not be attributed to neglect on

the part of Her Majesty's government. We are anxiously waiting to complete them, and I am sure that the country will approve of what I have now announced.—The Earl of HARDWICKE said that nothing could be more satisfactory or more liberal than the announcement which the house had just heard. At the same time, he must remark that such rewards might be made too cheap, and, so far as the service with which he was connected was concerned, he was sure that, if the medals were indiscriminately given, they would be despised, instead of being prized.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said that the question raised by Lord Hardwicke was one of great importance. Having distributed some 60,000 medals, he was in a position to pronounce an opinion, and he was sure that there was only one rule to be adhered to, and that was to give no medal except for distinguished services under fire. He rejoiced to hear that such rewards were about to be given to the cavalry who were engaged at Balaklava; he rejoiced also that the seamen were to share in that reward; but he hoped that the medal would be given not to all the seamen serving in the Black Sea, but only to such as were actually engaged on shore or in the attack on the 17th of October. He regretted that there should have been any hesitation on the part of the government, for what gallant men, whether they were soldiers or sailors, especially valued was promptitude; and did not such acts of heroism deserve speedy recognition? What soldiers and sailors love (said Lord Ellenborough) is promptitude in the acknowledgment of their gallantry and of the value of their services. They are, of all men in the world, the most sensitive. Honour to them is life; and life without honour is worthless. The thing which most of all others they desire is personal distinction; it is for that that they rush into action, braving wounds and death; and do you think that the men who at Balaklava enacted deeds of heroism to which you can hardly find a parallel, are not deserving of such an acknowledgment as I have named? I can find a parallel to the deeds of Alma, great as those deeds were; I can find a parallel to the deeds of Inkermann, though they were still more remarkable than the deeds enacted on the heights of Alma, but I do not know where I can find a parallel to the deeds of Balaklava. Cavalry has charged artillery before, cavalry has charged infantry on many occasions, and cavalry has charged cavalry, but I know not the instance, although it may exist, in which cavalry has before charged the cavalry, infantry, and artillery belonging to a powerful army in position. I have never heard of such a thing and I do not believe it has existed. How is it, then, that it did not at once leap into the noble duke's mind that it was due to the feelings of our army that they should be rewarded at once as they ought to be rewarded? The medals for Balaklava should have been instantly struck; not a moment's delay ought to have taken place. When Curtius threw himself armed into the gulf in order by the sacrifice of himself to promote the future welfare of his country, he did not do a deed of more desperate fidelity, he did not do an act of more absolute self-devotion than that done by our cavalry in that memorable charge. And let me not forget that noble regiment—the 93rd—under its gallant commander Brigadier-General Campbell, one of the very first officers we have—an officer in whom the troops felt a just confidence, and who had the entire confidence of the late Sir C. Napier for more than ten years, and by whom he was designated, on the death-bed of that able general, as one fitted for the command of the army, which I trust he will hold; for I do say that his troops have the fullest confidence in that officer, he had the fullest confidence in them, and it was that mutual confidence which enabled them successfully to resist the charge of that mass of the enemy's cavalry in one single red line, and with that firmness and immovability which has so often secured to us the victory. Let them then, with the cavalry, have that medal, for they deserve it. My lords, I say no more. I assure your lordships I cannot express to you the regret with which I have witnessed the delay in the issuing of this medal, or that there should ever have existed a doubt upon the subject. It does not look well that, there having been a concession of this honour, so justly deserved, the communication of

that concession should have been deferred until another duke moves for the production of the General Orders to this house, and draws public attention to it; nor is it well that the medal for great services at the Cape of Good Hope should also have been deferred, and that until the noble duke again and again asked a question upon the subject, the communication of the concession of that medal should have been withheld from parliament. Still more strange is it that, although the intention of conferring a medal was known months ago, it was not made public until the death of Sir G. Cathcart. I will say no more upon this subject than that it has pained me deeply, and I trust that, for the future, Her Majesty's ministers will look into the circumstances of every action at the moment it takes place, that they will form their opinion upon a calm and deliberate consideration of the facts, and grant at once the honours which they may think it deserves.—The Duke of RICHMOND, with reference to what had fallen from the Earl of Hardwicke, said that he certainly did not wish that any medal should ever be given to a man unless he is engaged in active warfare against the enemy, but he thought the seamen at Balaklava ought to have a medal as well as the soldiers. I have never advocated (said the Duke) that medals should be given in the way in which they were given for the battle of Waterloo. Your lordships are well aware that a body of troops—15,000 in number, composing a portion of the Duke of Wellington's army, were detached on a particular duty, and that body of 15,000 men never knew of the battle of Waterloo until the next morning; and yet those men have all got the Waterloo medal, in consequence, I suppose, of their being in position against the enemy. It won't do to draw the line too tight, and so at Balaklava I think the men who were actually participating in the operations are entitled. Not only do I not advocate an indiscriminate distribution, but I am quite prepared to go further, and, if my noble friend will allow me, I will state to him what occurred to my own knowledge in one regiment at the battle of Waterloo. A very distinguished officer, now dead, who commanded a battalion at Waterloo, found that at the end of the action a number of the men were glad to go away with the wounded, but, having taken them to the rear, instead of returning to their duty, they amused themselves with breaking open and pilfering from the baggage, upon which the officer instituted a court of inquiry, the consequence of which was that 16 or 17 of the men were reported for their bad conduct and lost their medal. But, in the instance of Balaklava, it is self-evident that every man has done his duty and deserves the honour. I will, therefore, after what has fallen from the noble duke, either withdraw my motion or take any other course which he may think fit. The motion will simply be for the production of the General Order, issued at the Horse Guards on the 15th of December, 1854, and also for any order of a similar character which may have been issued by the Board of Admiralty.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE suggested the postponement for the present of the motion, and it was postponed accordingly.

On Thursday January 25th Lord LYNDHURST gave notice that on the 2nd of February he would move the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this house the *Expedition to the Crimea* was undertaken by Her Majesty's government with very inadequate means, and without due caution or sufficient inquiry into the nature and extent of the resistance to be expected from the enemy; and that the neglect and mismanagement of the government in the conduct of the enterprise have led to the most disastrous results."

The LORD CHANCELLOR read a *Letter from Lord Raglan* acknowledging the vote of thanks to the army, and enclosing a letter from General Canrobert of similar import. The letters were ordered to be inserted in the journals of the house.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE communicated the *Resignation of Lord John Russell*. The duke said; My lords, a communication has been made, within this hour, to the other house of parliament that the noble lord the leader of the government in that house—Lord J. Russell—has tendered to Her Majesty the resignation of the office which he holds as President of the Council, and

that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept that resignation. Under these circumstances, upon the motion of the government, the house of commons has consented to adjourn until to-morrow. My noble friend at the head of Her Majesty's government has in consequence of the resignation of Lord J. Russell, gone down to Windsor, and I believe it will be in accordance with precedent, and will also be for the convenience of the house, if your lordships will follow the example of the house of commons in this instance, and will consent also to adjourn until to-morrow, should my noble friend whom I see opposite (the Earl of Winchilsea) and my noble friend on this side the house (Earl Grey) have no objection to postpone until to-morrow the motions of which they have given notice. I therefore venture to move, under the circumstances, that this house do now adjourn.—Earl FITZWILLIAM said that the house had been informed of Lord John Russell's resignation by another member of the government, without any explanation. He apprehended that changes of this kind ought not to be made in the constitution of the government without the houses of parliament being informed of the causes which have led to them.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE—Will my noble friend permit me to interrupt him? I know it is irregular to do so, but I wish to represent to him that the noble lord to whom I have referred has not made any statement in his place in the house of commons, but I have every reason to believe that he will make such statement to-morrow. Under these circumstances, I think the noble earl will feel that any attempt to anticipate the explanation of the causes of the noble lord's resignation would not be fair, and I appeal to him whether he will not think it right to abstain from entering into the subject on the present occasion.—Earl FITZWILLIAM—If those who can give information on the subject think that it is not desirable to afford such information, of course I cannot elicit it from them. Yet I cannot but think that an event of this kind ought not to be communicated, either to the other house of parliament—in which the person alluded to sits—or to your lordships, without some information being afforded as to the ground upon which office has been resigned. It does appear to me a subject upon which information ought to be given to the two houses at the very same time when the fact of resignation is communicated. The mere fact of the resignation is of little importance in comparison with the grounds upon which such a course has been taken, because, give me leave to say, it is no light matter in these days either for the government *en masse* to resign, or for one of the most important members of that government to say that he severs himself from all connection with the administration.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE observed that it belonged, of course, to the noble lord who had resigned to state the grounds of his resignation. He had reason to believe that it was the intention of the noble lord (Lord J. Russell) to state those grounds to-morrow, and it could not be maintained that it was incumbent upon Her Majesty's government to make that explanation for the noble lord which he alone was competent to make for himself.—The motion for adjournment was then agreed to.

On Friday, January 26th, the Earl of ABERDEEN gave some explanations respecting the *Resignation of Lord John Russell*. I am not, he said, fully possessed of the motives which may have induced my noble friend to adopt this course; but I cannot do better than read the letter in which he offered his resignation, and which I received from him on Tuesday last:—

"Chesham-place, Jan. 23, 1855.

"My dear Lord Aberdeen,—Mr. Roebuck has given notice of a motion to inquire into the conduct of the war. I do not see how this motion is to be resisted; but, as it involves a censure upon the War Departments, with which some of my colleagues are connected, my only course is to tender my resignation. I therefore have to request you will lay my humble resignation of the office which I have the honour to hold before the Queen, with the expression of my gratitude for her Majesty's kindness for many years.—I remain, my dear Lord Aberdeen, yours very truly,

"J. RUSSELL."

In accordance with my noble friend's desire, I laid his resignation before her Majesty, who has been graciously pleased to accept it. My lords, I have said I was not fully possessed with the motives—with all the motives—which may have induced my noble friend to take this step. I was perfectly aware that some time ago—two months ago—my noble friend disapproved of, or was dissatisfied with, the conduct of the government; but after the explanations which took place on that occasion, and his constant activity, both in sharing the business and preparing the measures of the government, up to the very day on which parliament re-assembled, I was certainly somewhat surprised, as well as deeply concerned, at receiving the letter which I have just read to your lordships. My noble friend may be at this moment giving—at all events it is his intention this day to give—in another place a full explanation of the motives of his conduct. It is not for me to do more than to express, as I do most unfeignedly, my deep regret at the step which he has thought it his duty to take. My lords, no one can possibly feel more than I do the great loss which her Majesty's government must sustain by such an event as this. Indeed, any of your lordships who may recollect what I said at the formation of the present government, will remember I expressly stated that I never should have ventured to undertake the formation of an administration, had I not secured the active co-operation and assistance of my noble friend. Now, my lords, under these circumstances, and in ordinary times, I might, perhaps, adopt myself a different course; but in the present condition of the country, of public affairs, and of her Majesty's government, I feel it due to our own honour, our own consistency, and our sense of duty, to meet the motion which is to be made this night in another place, and which will decide whether a censure is to be pronounced on her Majesty's government or not. And therefore, my lords, even without the great and powerful, and almost indispensable, assistance of my noble friend, we have thought it due to ourselves to meet this motion so announced, which has induced him to take the step I have just explained to your lordships.

Earl GREY gave notice that on Monday next he should move the resolution respecting the *Conduct of the War*, of which he had given notice for Thursday next.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave notice of a resolution with a view to the introduction of a measure relating to the law of Newspaper Stamps.

Mr. LAYARD asked the president of the council whether he had any objection to lay on the table of the house the correspondence that has taken place with foreign powers with regard to the treaty of the 2nd of December, 1854, and especially any document communicated to the Russian government containing the *Interpretation put by the British and French Governments on the Four Points*, not for negotiation, but for acceptance?—Lord J. RUSSELL said:—I cannot at present say whether it will be possible to lay on the table any of the correspondence referred to. With respect to the correspondence generally, I may say that it will not be usual nor for the convenience of the public service to lay it on the table, but there may be one or two papers of great importance which it may be possible to lay on the table, and I will consider that point before I give a final answer. In the meantime I may state generally what has occurred with respect to the Four Points. In this state the question stands at present:—At the end of November the Russian government, through their minister at Vienna, declared their acceptance of what are called the Four Points. On the 2nd of December a treaty was signed by France, England, and Austria, and on the 28th of December a meeting was held by the ministers of France, England, and Austria at Vienna, with Prince Gortschakoff, the minister of Russia. At that meeting the French minister read, on the part of his own government and of the governments of England and Austria, the interpretation which those three powers put on the Four Points, and which should be considered as the basis of negotiation. I will mention only that

with respect to the third point, it was proposed in that interpretation to put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. Prince Gortschakoff stated that he would not agree to the proposed interpretation of the Four Points, but that he would request further instructions from his government. Ten days afterwards he informed Count Buol that he had received those instructions, and on the 7th or 8th of January another meeting was held at the office of the Austrian minister for foreign affairs, and at that meeting Prince Gortschakoff read a memorandum which he said he had received, and which contained the views of his government. It was replied by Count Buol, Lord Westmoreland, and Baron de Bourquenay that they had no authority to receive any such memorandum, and that they must require, as the basis of negotiations, the consent of the Russian plenipotentiary, to the interpretation of which he had already received information. The Russian plenipotentiary, as Lord Westmoreland states in his despatch, then withdrew the memorandum he had read, and declared the acceptance, on the part of his government, of the communicated interpretation as the basis of negotiations. My hon. friend will understand that the Russian government, in accepting that interpretation as the basis of negotiations, of course reserve to themselves the power, when the basis is laid down in articles, to make any objection which they may think fit. The government of Her Majesty declared that they were ready to enter into negotiations upon the basis I have mentioned, but no powers are given to our minister to negotiate.—Mr. LAYARD wished to know whether the house should understand whether negotiations were actually going on or were suspended at present?—Lord J. RUSSELL replied that negotiations had not yet begun on the basis he had mentioned.—Mr. BRIGHT understood the noble lord to say that certain terms were offered to Russia, and he understood that, after some deliberation, Russia had consented also to that one of the Four Points which bad for its object to put an end to the predominance of Russia in the Black Sea. He hoped the noble lord would not withdraw from that, and he wanted to know whether instructions were about to be sent out for the purpose of opening negotiations, as the noble lord left the house to infer the contrary? Would, when a distinct proposition had been accepted, instructions for the prosecution of negotiations be sent out?—Lord J. RUSSELL had already stated that the government had expressed their willingness to negotiate on the Four Points, but they could not state anything further.

Mr. STAFFORD inquired whether any arrangements had been made to *Enable our Wounded and Sick Soldiers at Scutari to Remit Money Orders to their Relatives at Home*.—Mr. S. HERBERT said, instructions had been given to the paymasters so far back as last May to afford every assistance in their power for this object; and Lord Raglan was requested, with a view to give greater publicity to the facilities provided for the remittances of money, to issue a general order relative thereto. In September last, when depôts were formed at Scutari, instructions were issued to the paymasters especially with the view of calling attention to the facilities existing, and, having heard of remittance orders not being obtained, he sent out orders on the 27th of December last that the greatest care should be taken in order that the wishes of the soldiers might be complied with; that unnecessary forms should be dispensed with; and that the money they desired to remit should be sent to their relatives with promptitude.

Sir B. HALL, in moving for leave to bring in two bills to *Alter and Amend the Public Health Act and the Nuisances Removal Act*, which he should propose, he said, to refer to a select committee, explained the state of the law under the existing acts, and the manner in which he proposed to amend it, accompanying his explanations with copious details. One of the provisions of the first-named bill would empower local boards desirous of acquiring property within or without the locality, for the purpose of bringing water or for drainage works, to acquire the same without the necessity of coming before parliament. The bill would likewise provide that local boards should make annual reports, and send copies to every ratepayer, and that the

General Board of Health should have power to inspect towns, in order to see that money was properly appropriated. By the second bill he proposed to enlarge the powers of the local authorities to be established in every district in the country, under whose constant sanitary inspection the district would be placed. Sir Benjamin explained other enactments in this bill relating to lodging-houses and offensive trades, and to the non-performance of their duties by the local authorities. After a few remarks by Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Thornley, Sir H. Willoughby, Lord Ebrington, Mr. Pellett, and Mr. W. Williams, leave was given to bring in the bills.

On Wednesday the 24th the Speaker read a *Letter from Lord Raglan* in acknowledgment of the vote of thanks passed by the house. The letter was ordered to be printed.

On the motion of Mr. J. GREENE, a select committee was appointed to consider the cheapest, most expeditious, and most efficient mode of providing for the *Printing required for the Houses of Parliament and the Public Service*.

On Thursday the 25th Mr. ROEBUCK postponed till next day his motion for a select committee to inquire into the *Condition of the Army and the Conduct of the War*.

Sir G. GREY, in laying on the table certain addresses from the *Legislative Assemblies of Canada and some other Colonies*, congratulated the house on the loyalty and patriotism they exhibited, accompanied by more substantial proofs, in liberal contributions to the Patriotic Fund.

Mr. HAYTER stated that *Lord John Russell had tendered his Resignation, which had been accepted by Her Majesty*; and added that the noble lord would take an early opportunity of explaining his grounds for this resolution.—Lord PALMERSTON moved that the house should adjourn till next day. There are obvious reasons (he said) why the house should agree to the proposition. I should hope, therefore, that those gentlemen who have motions standing for to-night will have the goodness to postpone them till to-morrow, at which time they will stand in the same position in which they would otherwise have stood.—MR. DRUMMOND.—I think, from the statement made by my noble friend, that he is under some misapprehension, and that those who have notices of motion for to-night will not stand in the same situation to-morrow. I do not desire, knowing what the opinion of the house will be, to bring on my question now, but I cannot consent to any postponement if the noble lord will not give precedence to-morrow to the motion of my hon. and learned friend near me (Mr. Roebuck). I will then take care to condense any observations I have to make, and the papers I move for may be sent to the committee which my hon. and learned friend intends to propose.—Lord PALMERSTON.—In answer to the question put to me by my friend the hon. member for Surrey, I may state that I believe the hon. and learned member for Sheffield has postponed his motion till to-morrow, and that then he will take precedence. It is the intention of Her Majesty's government to oppose no impediment whatever to that motion coming on the first thing to-morrow.—MR. ROEBUCK.—I hope the noble lord will consider it settled that my motion is to take precedence of orders of the day to-morrow.—Lord PALMERSTON.—We are perfectly ready to accede to that arrangement.

The house then adjourned.

On Friday, January 26th, Lord J. RUSSELL gave explanations as to his *Resignation*. He commenced by advertizing to the resolution about to be proposed by Mr. Roebuck for a committee of inquiry, admitting that such a resolution could be only resisted upon two pleas, neither of which was it possible to substantiate at present — namely, that no facts could be adduced to prove the existence of mismanagement, or that every possible effort had been made to remedy the evils that might exist. The circumstances disclosed respecting the condition of the Crimean army were terrible, and to himself inexplicable. A year since he would have disbelieved in the possibility of a British force being left, when less than seven miles from a safe harbour, without supplies of provisions, without shelter, and without clothes, exposed to

privations under which they were perishing at the rate of ninety or one hundred a day. For some months past, the noble lord declared he had seen cause to object to the mode in which the war was conducted, and to desire such changes as might infuse increased vigour into the executive department of the War-office. With this object he had written to Lord Aberdeen in November last, expressing his opinion on the subject, and suggesting that the seals of the war ministry should be transferred to Lord Palmerston. Lord J. Russell read extracts from the correspondence that passed on that occasion, which had resulted in a refusal on the part of the Premier to adopt the suggestion. At that moment he had almost arrived at the conclusion that he ought to resign office, but had consented to postpone taking any immediate steps in that direction. As time went on, he was forced to confess that the management of the war did not improve; and when parliament met, and Mr. Roebuck placed on the paper a resolution for the appointment of a committee of inquiry into the state of the army in the Crimea, he felt that he could not conscientiously resist the motion. In consequence of that impression he had placed his resignation in the hands of the prime minister. Respecting the ultimate prospects of the war he could not consider them gloomy, observing that the Emperor of Russia had abated many of his first pretensions; that negotiations were again about to commence; that Austria had become our ally, and France continued to afford her cordial co-operation in all war proceedings. Adverting to personal topics, Lord J. Russell expressed his continued admiration of Lord Aberdeen, and his gratification in having belonged to the noble earl's administration, believing that many of the measures, and especially the financial measures, passed under his auspices, were highly conducive to the prosperity of the country. The noble lord concluded by referring to the whig party, with whom he declared it would always be his pride to have acted, and intimating his persuasion that recently the members of that party had not enjoyed their due share in the administration of public affairs.—Lord PALMERSTON characterised Lord John Russell's resignation as an abandonment of duty, and said on the part of his remaining colleagues that they had no intention of shrinking from their responsibilities.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved for a select committee to inquire into the *State of the Army in the Crimea*; but was prevented by illness from proceeding with his speech. After some observations from several members, the debate was adjourned till Monday.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Tuesday, Jan. 23rd.—Notices of Motions: by Earl of Ellenborough, for Returns respecting the War; by Earl Grey, for an Address to the Queen as to the Office of Minister of War; by the Duke of Richmond, for a Return of the Order granting Medals to the Crimean Army.

25th.—Lord Lyndhurst's Notice of Resolution on the Conduct of the War. Letter from Lord Raglan acknowledging Vote of Thanks. Lord John Russell's Resignation communicated by the Duke of Newcastle; consequent Adjournment of the House.

26th.—Ministerial Explanation.

House of Commons.—January 23rd.—Chancellor of Exchequer's Notice of Resolution as to Newspaper Stamps. Negotiations at Vienna; questions by Mr. Layard, and answer by Lord John Russell. Mr. H. Drummond's Notice of Motion for Returns as to the War; Mr. Roebuck's Notice of Motion for a Select Committee to inquire into the State of the Army in the Crimea. Bills to Amend the Public Health Act, and for the Removal of Nuisances, leave given Sir B. Hall to bring them in.

24th.—Letter from Lord Raglan, acknowledging Vote of Thanks. Printing Committee of last Session re-appointed.

25th.—Lord John Russell's Resignation communicated by Mr. Hayter. House adjourned.

26th.—Lord John Russell's Explanation.

THE Revenue Returns to the 5th inst. have been published. The net increase on the revenue of the preceding quarter is £440,567. Of this £581,072. is from Customs, in which the single item of sugar has produced £40,000. more than in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Currants, rum, brandy,

and tobacco also show an increase. Corn has yielded less by about 50,000*l.*, the present high prices having failed, thus far, to attract foreign supplies. Tea has yielded less by about 100,000*l.* In the quarter's Customs there is an increase to the amount of 602,952*l.* Of this about half-a-million arises from the increased duty on spirits laid on last session. There is also an increase of about 150,000*l.* on malt, against a decrease of 70,000*l.* on hops. Under the head of Stamps there is an increase of 79,429*l.* This arises from the Legacy and Succession Duty, which will for many years become annually more productive; from newspaper stamps, consequent on the reduction of the tax on supplements and the general interest felt in the war; and, to some extent, from bill stamps. In the Taxes there is the decrease of 114,055*l.*, arising from the recent reduction of the rates of duty, made at a time when there was but small expectation of war. The most important head in the return is the Property tax. Here the increase on the quarter is 483,232*l.*, arising partly from the double duty—to some small extent already paid in—and partly from the collection of arrears. On the whole of the three quarters since the beginning of the financial year the double duty has as yet produced no more than 700,000*l.*; and the extension of the duty to Ireland and to incomes of 100*l.* a-year, together, half-a-million. Part of the increase, too, is owing, it is stated, to improved assessments and earlier payments. In the quarter's receipts from the Post-office there is an accidental decrease to the extent of 51,766*l.*, owing to the comparison being made with a period in which the receipts were swollen by the release of certain balances under improved financial arrangements in the Post-office. To some such cause is referred the decrease of 144,004*l.* in the miscellaneous items.

A great meeting was held at Leeds on the 17th inst., assembled in order that *Mr. Cobden might Address his Constituents on the Subject of the War*. Mr. Carbutt, the chairman, stated the circumstances which led to the meeting. Mr. Cobden had first communicated to him his desire to address a meeting at Leeds on the aspect of the war. Mr. Carbutt called together Mr. Cobden's supporters, and they unanimously agreed that it was not desirable to commence an agitation which might lead to consequences all might deplore. Mr. Baines added to this explanation the fact, that, as Mr. Cobden had determined to come, it was felt that if he were listened to in silence, his opinions would go forth, not only with the weight of his name, but also with the weight of the authority of the West Riding of Yorkshire. They looked upon the war as a just one, dictated by sound policy; and resolved to take such steps as would prevent the public from supposing that they agree with Mr. Cobden's opinions. Before calling on Mr. Cobden, Mr. Carbutt said the meeting must admire his honesty and manliness in coming before them; and he trusted they would listen to him patiently and respectfully. Mr. Cobden then addressed the meeting at great length, repeating and enforcing his well-known views respecting the impolicy, and expressing his hopes that the present negotiations may lead to peace. He concluded by saying that, seeing there was a prospect of peace, he thought the meeting should not commit themselves by passing any resolutions whatever. The following resolution, however, was moved and seconded by Mr. Marshall and Mr. Baines:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the war in which England and France are now engaged with Russia is a great contest forced upon them by the outrageous aggression of the latter power upon the Turkish empire, and is intended to create a spirit of aggrandisement on the part of the Czar which threatens the independence of other nations, and this meeting is of opinion that the war ought to be prosecuted with the utmost vigour until safe and honourable terms of peace can be obtained." Mr. Lowett, and Mr. Priestman from Bradford, moved and seconded the following amendment:—"That this meeting, without giving any opinion on the origin or conduct of the war, earnestly desires that the present negotiations for peace may be carried to a successful issue, and the further evils of a protracted contest spared to this country, to Europe, and to the world." This amendment was received with loud cries of dissent, and, being put, was

negatived by an overwhelming majority. The original motion was then carried with very few dissentients.

At a public meeting at Tynemouth, Mr. W. S. Lindsay, the eminent ship-owner and member for that borough, made some important observations on the *Defects of our Naval Administration*. "He had read with deep interest the accounts in the public press; he had admired the bravery and indomitable courage of our troops; and although he had also seen with much regret painful statements of their privations and sufferings, yet he scarcely thought things were quite so bad as reported. In the sister service, the navy, however, there was great need of better organisation. This he knew, with regard to the management of matters connected with the transport service, France was greatly in advance of us. We had men of the first ability at the Admiralty—we could hardly find a more able man than Sir James Graham; but when he told them that the same system was now in operation which was pursued a hundred years ago, they would not be surprised at the difficulty and confusion which prevailed. The form of the charter-party was verbatim the same as in the days of the Dutch war and Lord Camperdown; whereas the French adopted a similar form like that used in the merchant service,—being in this respect, therefore, a great step in advance of us. These were facts the recital of which might give offence to some, but he thought it his duty to the country to state them thus publicly. Then again, France had a responsible head to whom all might appeal. If a merchant had occasion to send a message by telegraph to the Minister of War, requesting to know, for instance, what goods were to be shipped in a certain vessel, there was an answer by the same rapid medium by four o'clock in the afternoon. But if you wrote to the Admiralty—much nearer—the probability was you would not get an answer in a week, and sometimes five weeks elapsed before an answer was returned. This was not the fault of the men, but the system. There was no responsible head—responsible to the House of Commons, and through it to the country. Messages were sent from the Admiralty to the War Office, from the Ministry of War to the Ordnance, from the Ordnance to Deptford, and then came back to the source from which they had originally proceeded. A change, therefore, must be made in this respect before they could reasonably hope matters would improve. He should wish it to be clearly understood that his complaint was solely against the customs and old-fashioned systems to which they still rigidly adhered at the Admiralty. While that system was persisted in, it was impossible for the business to be conducted with promptitude and economy. There are too many heads—irresponsible heads—and far too great a machinery of useless forms. With such men as Captain Milne, (of whose unweary exertions and of whose practical knowledge he could not speak in terms too high) and a simple system—a system similar to that which is adopted in great mercantile establishments—we would not have heard of the fearful sufferings to which our troops had been subjected, through want of covering, food, and clothing. They had excellent men as subordinates, but the staff must be increased. At Deptford they had the same staff as during peace, which rendered it impossible for the men to get through the work; and he ventured to say that if 10,000*l.* had been disbursed in clerks at the commencement of the war, some hundreds of thousands would have been saved to the country."

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

SOME painful revelations respecting the *Life of the Poor* were made in the course of a coroner's inquest held at Clay Cross, Derbyshire, on the body of Christopher Coggins, an old army pensioner, 85 years of age. It was stated that the deceased, his wife, daughter, and five illegitimate children of the latter, had lived for the last five years in a brick-yard. For four years of this period they were in a hut made of sods, which the owner of the brick-field had given them leave to erect. It had only one room, no window, a chimney, and

a door. This hut was pulled down about a year ago, and the whole family subsequently moved inside the brick kiln, where they built up a rude place, about seven feet square, with loose bricks, and a roof of boards. The rain and the snow came in, and the old man had no bedding; nothing under him, in fact, but a few rags. He had only a bit of woolsey over him; he was cut with lying on the floor, and had raw place on his body as big as two hands. The old man's daughter stated that on the 16th of January she applied to Mr. Cowley, the overseer, for relief for her father, who said he would see the constable about it. Subsequently the overseer, constable, clergyman, and medical officer's assistant saw deceased, but neither medicine nor relief was administered, and her father was left to die, none of the parish officials seeing him the day of his death. It snowed that day and the day before, and the weather was very cold. One of the witnesses, in describing the place where the deceased and his family lived said he never in his life saw such a place; "the mud hut they had previously was a palace in comparison to it." Mr. Hays, constable, and owner of the field, said he saw a month ago that deceased was starving to death, and made representations to the parish authorities. Told the relieving officer the state and place the deceased was in, and the number of his family. The relieving officer told him he could do nothing unless the man applied himself for relief, for if he went to seek out paupers he would have nothing else to do. The jury returned the following verdict—"Died from exhaustion," and that death was accelerated by the inclemency of the weather, the improper place where the deceased lived (being an open brick-kiln), and the want of efficient attention on the part of the poor-law officers.

In the Central Criminal Court on the 1st instant, Alexander Macdonald was tried for *Uttering a Bill for 160l. knowing an Indorsement on it to be Forged*. The bill was drawn in California, on the Agua Fria Company in London; it was sent to Donald Ross, at Walworth, by his brother; before it came Ross had died of cholera: before its arriving at maturity, Ross's wife also died of the epidemic, leaving a child ten years of age. Macdonald appeared as the friend of the family, took charge of the child, arranged for the burial of the mother, and took possession of what effects there were. Subsequently he presented the bill in question at the Agua Fria Company's office, indorsed "Donald Ross"; and the money was paid. Macdonald immediately plunged into a course of dissipation. When arrested, he denied that he had written the indorsement—Mrs. Ross wrote it; and he pretended that he was acting as administrator for the child. The Jury believed that the indorsement was by Mrs. Ross, but convicted the accused for uttering the instrument knowing the signature to be forged. Sentence four years' penal servitude.

On the 3rd instant, Mr. Richard Nunn was tried for *Transposing an old Hall-mark of the Goldsmiths' Company to a New Gold Ring*. The chief witness, who ordered the ring, was an Irishman named Austin: in cross-examination he gave such an indifferent account of himself and his antecedents, that it was evident his evidence could not be relied on; the Lord Chief Justice interposed, and the counsel for the Goldsmiths' Company withdrew from the prosecution. Mr. Nunn was acquitted, amid general cheering.

On the 4th, Emanuel Barthélémy was tried for the *Murder in Warren-Street*. (See *Household Narrative* for last month, p. 273.) He was tried, not as might have been supposed for the murder of Mr. Moore, who was first killed, but of Charles Collard, whom he shot in resisting Collard's attempt to arrest him. Nothing new transpired, and no clue whatever was afforded to the mystery of the prisoner's conduct. The prisoner's counsel complained that his client was tried first for killing Collard: had he been tried for killing Moore, it might have been shown that his crime was only manslaughter; that Moore and the prisoner had quarrelled and scuffled, and in the struggle the homicide had been committed. As to the death of Collard, might he not have been accidentally shot in the confusion caused by a number of persons attempting to arrest the Frenchman, who was armed like most foreigners? The Lord Chief Justice instructed the jury that the crime charged in

the indictment was equally a murder as if the trial had been taken on the case of Moore. The jury after a short absence returned a verdict of "guilty," but with a strong recommendation to the mercy of the court and the Sovereign. The Lord Chief Justice pronounced sentence of death. He held out no hopes of a commutation of the punishment, though the jury's recommendation should be forwarded to the proper quarter: he knew not upon what ground the jury recommended mercy, as he could not find a single circumstance of mitigation. Barthélémy, who is said to be a ferocious, repulsive-looking man, exhibited no emotion from first to last. He was executed on the 22nd inst.

A dreadful *Murder* was committed in Foley-place on Sunday morning the 7th instant, by an Italian named Baranelli. The following particulars have transpired respecting the parties concerned. Some time since, a person calling himself Lambert, whose real name was Latham, took the house No. 5, Foley-place. He was accompanied by a "Mrs. Lambert," not his wife, a Mrs. Jane Williamson, a milliner living apart from her husband, and Luigi Baranelli, an Italian valet. Mr. Latham was the son of an eminent stockbroker, and he formerly occupied the post of storekeeper at Greenwich Hospital. He married a lady of property; on his father's death property was left him; and when he retired from his office some years ago, it was on a pension of 250*l.* per annum. Subsequently he separated from his wife, each taking a share of the property; he assumed the name of "Lambert," and formed a connexion with the woman now called "Mrs. Lambert." Urged by his friends to quit her, he gave out that before doing so he should set her up in a business. For this purpose, it appears, the house in Foley-place was taken; and Mrs. Jane Williamson was associated with Mrs. Lambert in partnership as wardrobe-dealers. Baranelli, being intimate with the Lambers, was invited to lodge in their house. He says he had an illicit connexion with Mrs. Williamson, who was with child by him, but that Mrs. Lambert proposed by drugs to prevent the birth of the child. On the other hand, Mrs. Lambert states that Mrs. Williamson complained of the importunities of the Italian, and that in consequence he was ordered to quit the house. On Saturday night he bought pistols, powder, and ball; sat up nearly all night writing wild love letters to Mrs. Williamson; and on Sunday morning he went to the house in Foley-place. A charwoman who attended opened the door; Baranelli gave her a great-coat and packet to take down-stairs. Then he entered the bedroom of the Lambers, and shot Mr. Lambert through the head as he lay, and fired at Mrs. Lambert, as she sprang towards him. Rushing up the stairs, he vainly tried to obtain an interview with Mrs. Williamson; and finding a policeman, who had been called by the half-murdered woman and the servant, was coming up the stairs, he dashed into a garret, loaded a pistol a second time, and shot himself. The door was broken open, and he was found yet alive. Mr. Lambert was dead; Mrs. Lambert, though badly wounded, is expected to recover; and Baranelli likewise is recovering. An inquest on the body of the murdered man has begun, but has not yet been proceeded with, in consequence of the condition of Baranelli and Mrs. Lambert. Baranelli is said to have formerly been a valet to Mr. Stewart of Perth, who allowed him a pension of 20*l.* a year on account of his faithful service.

The commission appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury to inquire into the *Allegations made against Archdeacon Denison*, with a view to depriving him of his preferments in the church, commenced their sittings on the 3rd inst., at Clevedon, near Bristol. The commissioners were Bishop Carr, rector of Bath; the Rev. C. Langdon, vicar of Queen Camel, near Langport; the Rev. R. Pole, rector of Yeovilton, near Ilchester; the Rev. R. C. Philips, rector of Cucklington, near Wincanton; and the Rev. H. Parr, of Shipston-on-Stour. Dr. Bayford appeared on behalf of the promoters of the suit, and Dr. Rt. Phillimore on the part of the Archdeacon. The commission closed their sittings on the 10th, when the chairman, Bishop Carr, read the following document.—"The commissioners, after due consideration of the depositions taken before them, and

of certain printed sermons, numbered 1, 2, 3, and of the documents annexed, declare their unanimous opinion—First, that as respects the preaching and publication, or making known and public, the above sermons by the venerable the Archdeacon of Taunton, within the diocese of Bath and Wells, there are sufficient *prima facie* grounds for instituting further proceedings. Secondly, the commissioners, having carefully examined the aforesaid sermons, and the charges specified in the commission, declare their unanimous opinion that the proposition of the venerable the Archdeacon, that to all who come to the Lord's table, to those who eat and drink worthily and to those who eat and drink unworthily, the body and blood of Christ are given, and that by all who come to the Lord's table, by those who eat and drink worthily and by those who eat and drink unworthily, the body and blood of Christ are received, is directly contrary or repugnant to the doctrine of the Church of England, and especially to the articles of religion; and that the doctrines as set forth in the aforesaid sermons, with reference to the real presence, in the holy eucharist, are unsupported by the articles taken in their literal and grammatical sense, are contrary to the doctrines and teaching of the Church of England, and have a very dangerous tendency. The commissioners are therefore of opinion, secondly, that there is sufficient *prima facie* ground for instituting further proceedings. The commissioners at the same time think it due to the venerable the Archdeacon to state, that in the sermons under consideration he has expressed his full assent and consent to the articles of religion; and that he has ex animo condemned the doctrines of the church of Rome, and particularly the Roman doctrine of transubstantiation."

At the Middlesex Sessions, on the 9th, Frederick Golden, a youth of eighteen, pleaded guilty to *Picking a Pocket*. He is a known and convicted thief; and told the committing magistrate that he had no means of getting a living—his father was in the navy, but he had never seen him since he was a year and a half old. Addressing the chairman of sessions, he said: I wish you would send me into the navy, or abroad somewhere. If you were to let me out, I should be hunted down, because I am a thief. I would live honestly if I could; but I cannot; and I must live somehow, and so I have to thieve. I wish you would be so kind as to send me out of the country. Mr. Witham said, in the former war they sent all the rogues and vagabonds they could into the navy; but they did not do so now. As to this prisoner's request, he had no power to send him abroad or into the navy. Prisoner: I hope you will, sir. Mr. Witham: All I can do will be to sentence you to fifteen years' transportation; but if I do so I am not at all sure that they will send you out. Prisoner: I hope you will be so kind as to do that, sir. Mr. Witham: Well, then, the sentence upon you is that you be transported beyond the seas for fifteen years: but you must not make sure that you will be sent out. Prisoner (walking away from the bar delighted): Thank you, sir; thank you, sir!

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A FATAL and distressing *Accident* happened at Leith. A party had assembled in the house of an eminent merchant, and while amusing themselves in the drawing-room, at a late hour in the evening, two young gentlemen, one of them the son of the host, commenced in dalliance to fence with a couple of swords, when either by an awkward thrust, or some accidental slip or push, the short sword used by the latter entered his friend's side under the right bowel, and inflicted a mortal wound. He lingered for some days before he expired. The unfortunate young man was also the son of a most respectable merchant in Leith; he had only lately entered on business, and gave high promise of becoming one of the foremost mercantile men of the place.

On Saturday evening the 20th inst. four lads were *Drowned while Skating* in St. James's Park. The ice, where the accident happened, had been marked "dangerous," but this did not prevent a rash crowd, among

whom were the unfortunate boys, from venturing upon it. Their bodies were taken to the Westminster Hospital, and three of them were identified as being John Linton, aged 15, of York-place, Southwark; George Edwards, aged 16, of Wilted-street, Somers-town; and John Hutton, aged 14, of Penton-place, Walworth.

A fatal *Railway Accident* happened on the Eastern Counties line on the 30th ult. at a place called Two-mile-bottom near Thetford. A special cattle-train left Norwich at ten minutes after nine at night, and was shunted at Attleborough to allow the up mail to pass. This latter having gone by, the cattle-train was allowed to proceed after the lapse of the usual time. The mail train came to a stand at Two-mile-bottom, in consequence of the breaking of the gib of one of the connecting rods of the engine. When the train was brought to a stand Colman, the guard, went up to the engineman, who told him to go back immediately and stop the advancing train, as he should be three quarters of an hour before he would be able to proceed. Colman appears to have gone out and placed down two fog signals only at a distance of 450 yards from the point of obstruction. He next, it appears, went a few yards further back and exhibited his hand lamp. In the meantime the special cattle train passed him, and ran into the mail-train. Burton the engine-driver of the mail-train was killed on the spot. Mr. Meagher, an undertaker from London, was so much injured that he died soon after. The Rev. Mr. Hepsworth of Botesdale in Suffolk, had two ribs broken and his head bruised, and several other persons were hurt. An inquest has been held on the bodies, and the following verdict returned—"That the deaths of John Burton and Robert Meagher were caused by the inefficiency of the Eastern Counties Company's rules, in allowing a heavily-laden cattle-train to follow after the mail-train at unlimited speed, without telegraphic communication from the succeeding station,"—that is, a notification from the station in advance that the first train had passed it.

Another *Railway Accident* took place on the night of the 3rd inst. on the Great Northern line, at a short distance beyond the Leeds central station, to the train which leaves that town at 6:25 p.m., and arrives at Doncaster at 8:10 p.m. The train was passing over a crossing on one of the viaducts, when the first carriage behind the engine struck against the points, and was immediately detached from the train by the breaking of the coupling irons, and thrown over the viaduct, forty feet high. In the carriage was the Recorder of Doncaster, Mr. R. Hall, who was travelling to that town to preside at the sessions on the following morning. His right leg and shoulder were fractured, and he was very much bruised by the fall of the carriage, which was smashed to pieces. There were two or three other persons in the carriage, who were also much injured. Mr. Hall was so much injured that an order was forwarded to Doncaster to adjourn the sessions for one month. The other part of the train was after some delay despatched on its journey.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THERE are four societies in London for employing boys from the Ragged Schools as *Shoeblacks*, posted in the streets. On Thursday evening, the 11th instant, all the boys, more than 190 in number, were assembled at a united tea-party in Exeter-hall, dressed in their respective uniforms—red, blue, yellow, and dark-blue. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and expressed the high satisfaction with which he regarded the rapid progress of this movement. These societies were at once educational, industrial, and reformatory, and they exercised an influence, through some fifty ragged schools, over a large and important, but hitherto neglected, class of people. The first-formed society (the boys of which wore a red uniform) had succeeded so well, and had established its financial position so satisfactorily, as to induce the formation of three other bodies, all conducted on the same plan and for similar purposes. Thus, the number of the shoeblacks in London had been doubled during the last six months, and seven or eight other towns had also begun to employ them. The earnings

of the boys of the original society were stated to be 10s. per week, even at this, the most unfavourable season of the year; and by their healthy and cheerful appearance, it might be judged how well they were cared for and instructed. Several hymns were sung in chorus, accompanied by the organ, and after addresses from one or two friends of the institution had been listened to, a testimonial, in the shape of a handsome silver-topped cane, was presented by the boys of the red brigade to their superintendent. The shoeblocks, preceded by their banners, and loudly cheering, then marched off to their dormitories, and the meeting dispersed, every one being greatly pleased with the good behaviour of the boys, and the evidence thus afforded of the results of religious and moral training when combined with active industry.

The *Belfast Mercury* gives a hopeful view of the *Progress of Ireland*. There is a decidedly increasing energy among the farmers, which it attributes to the infusion of skill and capital from Scotland and England, and to the habits of industry induced by the absence of political agitation: "During the last three years," it continues, "the sale of farm stock in Tipperary and Galway has risen from 1,440,000/- to about 2,000,000/- in the one case, and from 1,380,000/- to about 1,900,000/- in the other." Cattle of the finest descriptions are now to be seen in each of these localities. In three different periods the number of cattle and sheep owned by Ireland's agriculturalists stood as follows:—1841, 1,863,116 cattle; 2,102,183 sheep.—1851, 2,907,471 cattle; 2,122,121 sheep.—1853, 3,383,309 cattle; 3,142,656 sheep. Not less satisfactory is the decrease of pauperism and the almost total absence of agrarian outrage.

At the opening of the Birmingham Borough Sessions, last week, Mr. M. D. Hill, the recorder, took for the subject of his charge to the Grand Jury, the *Influence of Intemperance upon the Nation*; and sought a remedy in such a measure as the Maine Liquor Law. But he did not advocate the immediate and arbitrary prohibition of intoxicating liquors. On the contrary, he showed from the course of history, that prohibitions, in the teeth of public opinion, are ineffectual and vicious in their effects; and he arrived at these conclusions—"That laws affecting the daily habits of life can never be enforced unless they have the hearty consent of the people at large, as evinced by the opinions of a majority vastly preponderating in numbers and in every other element of power over the dissentients. . . . We have made the discovery, or rather the truth has been forced upon our attention, that the traffic in alcoholic drinks obeys that great law of political economy which regulates all other commerce, namely, that any interference with the free action of manufacturer, importer, or purchaser, diminishes consumption. Whether the restriction has revenue for its object, as in the imposition of duties, or whether it has morals and good order for its purpose, as in regulations respecting the number of vendors or the hours during which they may exercise their vocation, still the effect is found to be the same—diminution of the quantity consumed. But the restrictions must not only be imposed by the Legislature, they must be carried into effect by the ministers of the law; and that they should be effective, they must not be opposed by a dominant public opinion." Mr. Hill pointed out that the Maine Liquor Law has been adopted in six States of the American Union; that in its operation it has diminished pauperism and emptied prisons; and that no State where it has been once adopted has abandoned the measure. But he also pointed out, that it was imposed and enforced by public opinion alone. In England, (he observed) not less than fifty millions sterling, if not more, is annually expended upon intoxicating drinks; while only five millions are spent on literature, including newspapers!

An interesting *Report on the Cholera Epidemic of 1854, in so far as it affected the City of London*, has been laid before the City Court of Sewers by Mr. Simon, the medical officer of health. From this document it appears that the cholera of the last year was less fatal in the metropolis, and greatly less in the city, than the visitation of 1849. In 1849, there died in the city 728 persons; in 1854, only 211, or 16 in 10,000, a reduction of 71 per cent on the previous mortality.

Throughout the metropolis the deaths in the present year were at the rate of 45 in 10,000; in 1849 the rate was 60 in 10,000. The following passage in Mr. Simon's report will show its object:—"It has been my principal aim in this report briefly to set before you the coincidence of two facts—I. That you have suffered from cholera below your former mortality in the proportion of 211 to 728, below the metropolitan mortality in the proportion of 16 to 45, and even below the lighter mortality on the north side of the Thames (from Hampstead to the river) in the proportion of 16 to 26. 2. That for many months before the outbreak of cholera there had been extensively prosecuted through the entire city such attainable sanitary measures as you deemed the best protection against disease. Beyond this collation of facts it is hitherto most difficult to argue. The laws of epidemic visitation are very imperfectly known to us. Partly we have learnt the conditions which augment their local spoil, but nothing of what evokes their slumbering power, nothing of what governs their world-wide spread, nothing of what determines their eventual decline, nothing of what permits their fitful mildness. In this domain of unknown, perhaps unconjectured influences, science would count it irreverence and temerity to dogmatise on single instances of correlation, or to speak of the impure impulses of that wandering plague as though they were the strokes of some machine subject to the guidance of one's human will." But although cholera is called capricious, because many populations, despite great felicity, have suffered little retribution, yet Mr. Simon believes that in the great harmonies of nature there is no place for accident or caprice; and that scientific insight, the fruit of larger observation, will ultimately enable us to arrive at some conclusion.

The annual festival in aid of the funds of the *Commercial Travellers' School*, took place on the 30th ult., at the London Tavern. Mr. Charles Dickens presided, and was supported by several other literary gentlemen, including Mr. Peter Cunningham, Mr. Horace Mayhew, and Mr. Albert Smith. The presence of these gentlemen appeared to have been a great attraction to the commercial friends of the institution, for nearly 240 guests—double the anticipated number—sat down to dinner. After dinner, the usual loyal toasts having been drunk, the chairman proposed "Prosperity to the Commercial Travellers' Schools," in an excellent speech. Mr. Moore, the treasurer, whose exertions on behalf of the institution were specially alluded to by the chairman, gave an account of the funds. He stated that the building fund already reached 16,500/-, and 5,000/- more would complete it. To obtain that sum he invited the generous co-operation of all present. The children at present in the school, 152 in number, were then introduced, and their healthy and contented appearance bore testimony to the attention paid to their personal comforts. The results of the evening's subscription were announced by the secretary to amount to about 800/-.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE QUEEN has addressed the following letter to Mr. Sidney Herbert, and through him to Mrs. Herbert, to whom it was transmitted to Miss Nightingale: "Windsor Castle, Dec. 6, 1854. Would you tell Mrs. Herbert that I begged she would let me see frequently the accounts she receives from Miss Nightingale or Mrs. Bracebridge, as I hear no details of the wounded, though I see so many from officers, &c., about the battle-field, and naturally the former must interest me more than any one. Let Mrs. Herbert also know that I wish Miss Nightingale and the ladies would tell these poor noble wounded and sick men that NO ONE takes a warmer interest, or feels more for their sufferings, or admires their courage and heroism MORE, than their Queen. Day and night she thinks of her beloved troops. So does the Prince. Beg Mrs. Herbert to communicate these my words to those ladies, as I know that our sympathy is much valued by these noble fellows.—VICTORIA."

General Sir De Lacy Evans has received a congratulatory address, accompanied with a sword valued at 150

guineas, from the inhabitants of the united parliamentary boroughs of Hythe, Folkestone, and Sandgate. The presentation was made on the 22nd inst., by a deputation headed by Mr. Brockman, the Member for the district. In replying to the address, General Evans said: "It was impossible we could always have a perfect war establishment on a military scale. We had happily enjoyed 40 years of peace, and opinions would not admit of the continued maintenance of a large standing army. He would recall to their minds the many military wars in which this country had been engaged, and it would be found that the British forces seldom attained decisive success until at least a third campaign had set in. He might instance the war which immediately followed the breaking out of the French Revolution. England was great and powerful as a commercial nation, and he had no doubt that the present contest would be brought to a termination as decisive in its results as it would be glorious to British arms. The army sent to the Crimea, though young, had vindicated the honour of its country. There was no other army to send. It was young, but it had done its duty. Many mistakes in details had certainly occurred, but they had been the result of inexperience. No want of judgment, in his mind, had been evinced by any officer of that staff in which he had had the honour of holding an humble post." He added, in answer to a remark from one of the deputation, that "he had of late read many statements on the condition of the troops. It was not his province, on that occasion, to enter into this question; but he had no objection to say one thing, and that was, that when he left headquarters the army was not in the condition described in some reports. More he could not say. He would again remind them that at the commencement of a war many mistakes generally took place, and after 40 years' peace such mistakes ought not to occasion much surprise."

The Marquis of Clanricarde, and his son Lord Dunkellin, are profuse in their expressions of gratitude to the Czar for the release of the latter from his captivity as a prisoner of war, in Russia. The Marquis expresses the "lively gratitude and profound emotion" with which he is inspired by the "kind and gracious recollection" which the Czar "has been pleased to preserve" of him. "The order which the Emperor has issued in regard to my son is perfectly in harmony with the personal goodness that his Majesty formerly exhibited towards me, and which I can never forget. I have motives for thinking that no one can better comprehend than his Imperial Majesty the public duties which under unfortunate circumstances are required of us." Lord Dunkellin is not less grateful: addressing the Governor of Kaluga, he says: "This magnanimity, which restores me to complete freedom, and unconditionally, is really the act of a great man; and although I shall never be in a situation to express to him my whole gratitude with words, I nevertheless pray you to have the kindness to inform the Minister of War how deeply I am moved by the noble and magnanimous conduct of his Majesty the Emperor. My heart will never forget it. An agreeable recollection will always remain in it of my short, and, through your thousand acts of kindness, noways unpleasant, imprisonment at Kaluga."

It deserves to be generally known that Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Elphinstone Dalrymple, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, who was ill on board ship in the harbour of Balaklava on the 5th of November, no sooner heard of the attack on the British lines, than he rose from his sick bed, and though suffering from fever, and the effects of a wound in the knee which he received at the battle of the Alma, made his way to the scene of action, and (the senior officers being at that time killed or wounded) took the command of the battalion, from about one o'clock till the shattered remnant of the brave band was marched off the ground at four p.m. This energetic action nearly cost the gallant officer his life; a violent relapse of the fever ensued, and a medical board decided on sending him instantly to England for the restoration of his health, which is now improving.

The following interesting notice appeared in the *Gazette* of the 12th inst.: "The Queen has been pleased to grant unto private Andrew Anderson, of the Sappers and Miners, her royal license and permission that he may accept and wear the Order of the Medjidie, which

the Sultan has been pleased to confer upon him, in approbation of his distinguished bravery and good conduct at the passage of the Danube on the 7th of July last, and subsequently in rescuing the body of his commanding officer, Lieutenant Burke, after he had fallen; and that he may enjoy all the rights and privileges thereunto annexed; provided, nevertheless, that her Majesty's said license and permission do not authorise, and shall not be deemed or construed to authorise the assumption of any style, appellation, rank, or precedence, appertaining unto a Knight Bachelor of these realms. And also to command that her Majesty's said concession and especial mark of her royal favour be registered, together with the relative documents, in her Majesty's College of Arms."

Certain English residents at Pau have paid a graceful compliment to Madame Bosquet, the mother of the French General. As a token of their estimation of the prompt and efficient aid which General Bosquet brought to the British troops at the battle of Inkermann, they presented Madame Bosquet, on New Year's Day, with a handsome silver-gilt coffee service.

M. Granier de Cassagnac has received from the Pope the cross of the order of St. Gregory the Great. He lately received from his Holiness, to whom he had dedicated his "Histoire des Causes de la Révolution Française," an autograph letter in Latin, highly encomiastic of that work; but at the same time telling him—"I have not yet, my son, been able to read it."

Cardinal Wiseman has been appointed by the Pope a member of the Sacred Congregation of the Index.

The Earl of Elgin arrived at Liverpool from Canada on the 9th inst., in the Pacific. The next day he met the principal members of the American Chamber of Commerce and the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, in the drawing-room of the Town-hall; and received from them addresses congratulating him on his return, and expressing their satisfaction at his sound commercial policy, and the treaty which he has negotiated with the United States.

Mr. Carleton, the Irish writer of fiction, announces, through the columns of the *Nation*, that he is about to leave Ireland for ever, and to close the remainder of his days in Canada. This information he embodies in the following stanza:—

"Ungrateful country, I resign
The debt you owe to me and mine;
My sore neglect—your guilt and shame—
And fling you back your curse of fame."

Mr. Carleton has been for many years receiving a Government pension amounting to 200*l.* per annum, as an acknowledgment of his literary merits.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

THE EARL OF LEITRIM died on the 2nd inst., at his seat, Killadoon, county of Kildare, in his eighty-seventh year.

MAJOR-GENERAL HENRY WILLIAM ADAMS, C.B., died on the 19th ult., at Scutari, from the effects of the wounds he received in the battle of Inkermann, on the 5th of November.

GENERAL HUSKISSON died on the 31st ult., in Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, aged eighty-two. He was brother of the late Right Hon. W. Huskisson.

COMMANDER JOLLY, of her Majesty's schooner Bermuda, who lately distinguished himself in the Grey Town affair, died at sea on the 17th ult.

SIR ADAM FERGUSON, the friend of Scott, and a man of note in the literary and convivial circles of the last generation, died on the 1st inst., at the advanced age of eighty-six. Sir Adam was the eldest of three sons of the well-known Sir Adam Ferguson, the predecessor of Dugald Stewart in the Moral Philosophy Chair of the University of Edinburgh.

LIEUT.-GENERAL JAMES ROBERTSON ARNOLD, K.H., K.C., of the Royal Engineers, died on the 3rd inst., at his house in Onslow-square, aged seventy-three.

LORD ROBERTSON, of the First Division of the Court of Session of Scotland, died suddenly of apoplexy, on the 16th inst., at his house in Edinburgh, in his sixtieth year.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER, MARIA THERESE, mother of the King of Sardinia, died on the 12th inst., at Turin, after seven days' illness, at the age of fifty-four.

The QUEEN CONSOFT of SARDINIA died on the 20th inst., of pulmonary fever.

SIR GEORGE WOMBELL, Bart., died suddenly at his residence in George-street, Hanover-square, on the 14th inst., in his sixty-third year.

REAR-ADmiral FORBES died on the 13th inst. He was

younger son of the late General Gordon Forbes, colonel of the 29th Regiment.

MAJOR-GENERAL H. R. MILNER died at Plymouth on the 16th inst., in his fiftieth year.

MISS MITFORD, the author of "Our Village," died at Swallowfield Cottage, near Reading, in her sixty-ninth year.

M. MERLE, the foreign editor of *Galignani's Messenger*, died in Paris on the 19th inst.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE *Overland Mail* has brought dates from Calcutta to the 20th, and Bombay to the 31st of December. The mission of the Burmese ambassador, it was fully expected, would lead to a treaty. The deficiency of the opium revenue of the year is only 1½ per cent. of the whole Indian revenue. The Bengal bank has again raised its rate of discount all round. Trade in India is dull, money scarce, and freights low.

Accounts from *Hong Kong* are to 12th of December. The Imperialists have recaptured four towns in the north of China. The town of Canton is in great distress, and all business is stopped. Teas have declined at Shanghai, but sales of silk are active.

The intelligence from *Australia* comes down to the end of November. The predominance of imports over exports was excessive. Many small failures had taken place, and there was a prevalent want of confidence, and even the wealthy retailers would not increase their stocks. Prices showed no improvement. Stocks in first hands remained very heavy. Agriculture was being prosecuted with great vigour in new districts. An outbreak at Ballarat goldfields, in opposition to the license fee system, had created much excitement. Melbourne had been in a state of agitation on the convict question, and a series of resolutions had been carried denouncing the system.

The following account of the marvellous growth of Melbourne is given by a correspondent of the *Sydney Empire*:—"I must take this opportunity of expressing my unbounded astonishment and admiration of the progress that has been made during this interval. I am not ashamed to say that I have always had strong predilections in favour of Sydney. Landing two years ago in Melbourne, and exposed there to the horrible discomforts which that place presented, I fled to Sydney as a city of refuge, and was not disappointed in obtaining that which I sought—nearly all the comforts of an English home. My impressions of Melbourne took their colour from that most unfavourable period in her history. How was I astonished on my recent visit to see the stupendous alterations that had been effected! The wide streets, the handsome shops, the capital foot-pavements, the abundance of excellent hotels, the torrent of population, the order and activity in the streets, and the vast extent of the city, with the stability and even splendour of some of its buildings, were subjects of constant surprise and congratulation. Those who reside in Melbourne, and have become daily acquainted with its growth, cannot appreciate the wonder with which strangers must regard their work. In my humble

opinion, Melbourne at this moment presents the most extraordinary instance of the power and enterprise of the human race that the world ever saw,—streets, with well-paved foot-paths, of the width of Oxford-street, and nearly of the same length, and lined with shops, in the plate-glass windows of which are displayed all the luxurious necessities of the highest state of civilisation; suburbs extending for miles, where comfortable houses as well as cottages of every description are found, constituted of iron, wood, brick, tin packing-cases, or of canvas; these interspersed with churches, chapels, school-houses, and now possessing an imposing structure in timber and glass, in humble imitation of the Great Crystal Palace, of 1851."

The revenue returns for the province of Victoria have been published. On the quarter ending September 30, the total increase on the aggregate revenue is 92,586L, and on the year 333,847L [The increase on the aggregate of the territorial revenue on the quarter is 160,343L, and on the year 413,433L. The total increase respectively, as compared with 1853, is 352,929L on the quarter, and 747,280L on the year. As the increase on the quarter is at the rate of more than 1,000,000L per annum, it is evident that the revenue up to the present moment continues to improve.

A continuance of dry weather throughout the colony threatened to render the fruit and grain harvest very short. Latterly, however, rain had fallen in some districts.

A destructive storm of hail, lightning, and thunder visited the district of Adelaide on the 2nd October. Much property was destroyed, and the fruit crop suffered severely.

* The *Jamaica Legislature* was opened by Sir H. Barkly on the 28th of November. In his speech he touched upon a great variety of topics, remarking that while the colony had suffered for some years past from several causes, he did not despair of a vast change being effected in time to come, if enterprise, intelligence, and perseverance, were rightly applied to the moral, social, and financial improvement of the colony. On the 7th December, Mr. Westmoreland, a member of the Executive Government, in alluding to the measures to be brought forward, stated that a considerable deficit had occurred from the ordinary sources of revenue for the present year, which could only be met by increased taxation. It was therefore intended to propose to increase the duties on imported spirits, oil, gunpowder, and tobacco, and on unenumerated articles from 4 per cent. to 12½ per cent. Resolutions to this effect were proposed and carried the following day.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

ACCORDING to the accounts from the *Crimea*, the siege of Sebastopol progresses slowly; the fighting since the battle of Inkermann, having consisted of sorties from the place, and attacks upon the besiegers' working parties in the trenches, always repulsed with little loss on either side. Dispatches from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle have been published:—"On the 13th of December his lordship writes; 'The enemy has made no movement of importance, and nothing of any material consequence has taken place before Sebastopol. The Russians moved upon our advanced pickets in front of our left attack the night before last in some force; but they were instantly driven back by a detachment of the First battalion Rifle Brigade on the right and by one of the 46th on the left. The firing, however, was kept up for some time, and the Third and Fourth

Divisions were held in readiness to support, in case their assistance should have been required."

December 18th:—"Nothing has occurred since I had the honour to address your Grace on the 13th instant. The weather, which was then fine, changed on the following afternoon; and from that time to the evening of the 16th, it hardly ceased either to rain, hail, or snow. The night of the 16th was particularly severe; but it cleared up yesterday, and to-day it is again dry. The bad days above-mentioned have, however, rendered the communications more difficult, and materially retarded the movement of supplies and stores.

"The 89th and 17th Regiments have arrived from Gibraltar, and will take their place in the Third and Fourth Divisions this day.

"A considerable portion of the warm clothing has

been received, and is in course of issue; and the men are most grateful to her Majesty's government for having provided for them what conduces so essentially to their comfort.

"I have the honour to transmit returns of the casualties between the 11th and 16th."

December 23:—"A great deal of rain has fallen in the last forty-eight hours, and the weather has again become very inclement.

"The only occurrence in the siege operations has been a sortie made by the enemy on both our right and left attack, during the night of the 20th, the one being conducted silently, the other with drums beating, and shouting; the first being probably the real object of the advance, as nearer to the Inkermann heights.

"Owing to the extreme darkness of the night the enemy were enabled to come very near the right attack without being perceived, and having made a sudden rush upon the most forward parallel, they compelled the men occupying it to withdraw, until reinforced by a party under Major Welsford, of the 97th Regiment, when it was regained possession of, and the Russians retired, not however without occasioning some loss in both killed, wounded, and missing, Lieutenant Byron, of the 34th Regiment, being amongst the latter.

"On the left attack the enemy were met with great gallantry by Lieutenant Gordon, of the 38th Regiment, who, when supported by the covering party of the trenches, under Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy, of the 50th, succeeded in at once driving them back. But here, too, I regret to say, the loss was still more severe, Major Moller, of the 50th, fell mortally wounded, and, I am concerned to add, is since dead; and Captain Frampton and Lieutenant Clarke, both of the 50th Regiment, are missing. Sir Richard England speaks in high terms of the gallantry and vigilance of these troops, and of the distinguished conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy.

"Enclose the return of casualties to the 20th inclusive.

"Two regiments of French cavalry, under General D'Allonville, made a reconnaissance on the 20th, towards the ground recently occupied by the enemy in front of Balaklava, while the 42nd Regiment, a detachment of the Rifle Brigade, under Colonel Cameron, 42nd Regiment, and a battalion of Zouaves, made a corresponding movement on the extreme right. The latter saw only a picket of Cossacks, which retired upon their approach; the former exchanged shots with the enemy, and ascertained that they had scarcely any troops on the left bank of the Teaternaya."

December 26th:—"The rain which prevailed on Saturday was succeeded by snow on Sunday, and it was almost the worst day I ever saw. At night it froze, and the frost has continued ever since, without being severe; but it has not as yet tended to dry the ground, still in a lamentable state.

"Every effort is making that the state of the roads will permit to bring up ammunition and the materials of siege, and General Canrobert is in this respect affording us every possible assistance.

"The garrison keeps up a heavy fire upon our trenches, particularly at night, and your Grace will regret to see by the returns which I inclose, that we daily sustain some casualties."

December 30:—"Since I wrote on the 26th the weather has been somewhat more propitious, but the state of the ground is hardly more satisfactory. The 18th Regiment has arrived; and I have likewise the honour to inform you that we are daily receiving vast supplies of ammunition, warm clothing, and huts for the army. The utmost efforts will be made to disembark all those stores; but the difficulty of effecting this desirable object is very great, owing to the very limited extent of the harbour, its crowded state, and the narrow entrance to the town, and want of space on the beach, the rocks on the north side rising directly out of the water, and there being, consequently, an accommodation but on one side. The Russians continue to withdraw from the Valley of the Teaternaya, whilst they have constructed defensive works on the heights above, which would imply a difficulty of maintaining their troops in the field. A reconnaissance was sent out this morning, by General Canrobert towards the river,

in co-operation with a portion of Major-General Sir Colin Campbell's force on the extreme right of Balaklava, the result of which is not yet known."

The following dispatch from General Canrobert to the Minister of War has been published in the *Moniteur*, December 22:—

"The bad weather has continued, with rare and short intervals of improvement. We nevertheless continue, as much as possible, to encircle the place with our trenches; and all the siege operations become perfect and solid, notwithstanding the rainy season, which renders the transport very difficult.

"The two armies mutually assist each other. I am indebted to the English army for the transport of nearly all the cavalry I have under my orders in the Crimea; and on my part, I have placed at the disposal of Lord Raglan my mules to convey his sick to Balaklava, and teams to convey his ammunition. These exchanges contribute to keep up excellent relations and perfect cordiality between the two armies.

"There scarcely passes a night without some points of our lines being attacked by sorties, which generally cost dear to the assailants.

"Yesterday, at 2 A.M., the Russians, after having made a sortie on the third parallel of the English, who vigorously repulsed them, made also a demonstration upon the centre and left of our works. Received by a very brisk and well-directed fire, they withdrew before our soldiers, who pursued them at the point of the bayonet. The enemy left a great number of dead upon the ground.

"To make the guard of our trenches more efficacious, I have organised a corps of volunteers, whose duty it is to keep the approaches of our works clear of the enemy at night. I expect good results from this institution, which completes that of the francs-tireurs, organised since the commencement of the siege, and who do duty by day in the trenches. They have already done much injury to the enemy.

"As I have already informed you, our works extend actually to the bottom of the Quarantine Bay. The enemy's attention is drawn to the efforts we are making on that side, and his artillery sharply disputes the ground with us; where, as nearly everywhere, we are obliged to hollow out the rock; but our progress is not the less real, and we remain in possession.

"I have informed you that the enemy had withdrawn his left, and evacuated the portions of the valley of Balaklava, where we formerly saw them in considerable numbers. I was desirous of ascertaining their exact position in that direction, and the day before yesterday I pushed forward a reconnaissance to the vicinity of the village of Tchergoun, consisting of a brigade of cavalry under the orders of General d'Allonville. They came upon some hundred riflemen behind the village of Camara, and drove them back into the ravines. Detachments of cavalry, accompanied by their artillery and some battalions of infantry, appeared on the flanks of the reconnaissance, but did not attempt to interrupt its operations, which were happily accomplished.

"At the same time, 1000 infantry, Highlanders and Zouaves, left Balaklava, on the right of our position, and explored the heights which extend towards the valley of Baidar. They only met a post of Cossacks.

"To resume, I am of opinion that on the left bank of the Teaternaya there are only pickets of the enemy observing our positions from a distance. A movement has evidently taken place in the Russian army, caused probably by the landing of the Turkish troops, which continues at Eupatoria. I shall soon know the real state of the case.

"Although the number of the sick has somewhat increased in consequence of the perpetual wet in which we live, the sanitary condition of the army is satisfactory, and its moral condition perfect.

"If the troops have suffered much from the rain, it has not yet been cold; the snow, which for some time has covered the tops of the mountains inland, has not yet fallen upon the plain which we occupy, and the thermometer has not yet in a single instance been below zero. These general conditions are rendered better by the care taken of our men; and, thanks to the wise foresight of the Emperor and his government, the army

enjoys relative comforts, which make it gaily support the fatigues it has to undergo.

"The number of sick in our military hospitals at Constantinople is 3794, of whom 1387 are wounded. I have established in the Crimea, near the Bay of Karatsch, a dépôt of convalescents, where the men who leave the army ambulances, and who only require rest, will regain their strength, and be enabled to return to their duty. This measure will diminish the number sent to Constantinople.

"His Imperial Highness Prince Napoleon, still retained at Constantinople by the malady which forced him to leave the Crimea, wished to rejoin us. I opposed his return, which might compromise the health of the Prince."

The principal occurrence mentioned in the official despatches—the Russian sortie in the night of the 20th of December—has been described in several private accounts. The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 22nd, gives the following details:—"Yesterday morning (Dec. 21), a little before three o'clock, the whole camp before Sebastopol was suddenly aroused by bugles sounding the alarm. As the stirring notes ran from regiment to regiment, in many instances followed by the 'double,' the troops started up from their sleep and were quickly under arms. The night was fine and starlight, but there was no moon visible.

"The cause of the alarm and turn-out proved to be a sortie made by the Russians against the advanced works, both of the English and French batteries. Distinct attacks had been made nearly at the same time on the troops in advance of Captain Gordon's battery on Frenchman's Hill, and on these protecting the advanced work which some time since was wrested from the Russians; another body approached the entrenchment originally made in advance of Captain Chapman's battery on Greenhill. The enemy came on in comparatively such limited numbers against the advanced work in front of Frenchman's Hill as almost to lead to the belief that it was planned as a feint, while the more earnest attack was made against Greenhill and the advanced French works.

"I wish I could write that the attack had been met as it ought to have been. Neither men nor officers were on the alert, and all were taken by surprise. There were eight companies in the advanced work of Captain Gordon's battery, taken from the 7th, 23rd, 33rd, and 34th Regiments, and this force, properly prepared and organised, was sufficient to hold it against double the number of the enemy who attacked it. As it was, however, the sentries posted only a few yards in front of the work must have been utterly careless, and in all probability were lying down, if not asleep; for the first intimation of the attack to the men and officers lying within the work was given by the shouts of the Russians themselves who had mounted the parapet, and were already committing havoc among the sleepers. The consequence was there was a panic, scarcely any resistance was made, and the covering party hastily fell back upon the battery. Some of the men even crowded in at the embrasures, and thus prevented the guns being used against the Russians who had gained possession of the advanced work. Others crowding within the battery impeded the action of the troops stationed there for a time; but when order was restored and an advance made to regain from the enemy the work they were supposed to be still holding, it was found they had already abandoned it. They were not in sufficient force to retain it, extending as it does for a long distance across the hill towards the middle of Orehakov ravine; but they had had time to carry off considerable booty in arms, blankets, and accoutrements. Five men were killed, and had all been stripped, even to their boots. One body was found with eight bayonet wounds; another was mangled and thrown into the well. Fifteen were wounded; some so badly, that they were left for dead in the work by the Russians. These had been most barbarously treated, having been repeatedly wounded after they had fallen, and in three or four instances had been kicked and beaten over the head by the butt end of the musket, to insure destruction of life. About twenty-seven are missing, no doubt having received

wounds which did not disable them from marching, and being carried away as prisoners. Among these latter is Lieut. J. Byron of the 34th regiment. This officer was seen to fall by a sergeant, who states that he was wounded, but apparently not severely, and has not since been forthcoming. There can be little doubt but that he was taken away as a prisoner. The sentries were men of the 7th Royal Fusiliers.

"I have not heard one circumstance advanced to palliate this discreditable affair. The night was sufficiently clear and light for the Russians to have been seen advancing at a distance off of 150 or 200 yards. But it is not difficult to account for and explain its occurrence. There was a force of eight companies, but there was no field officer in the work: they were under the command of a captain. They were taken from different regiments, and were not in the habit of acting together. The English officers on outpost and picket duty are in too many instances notoriously careless: wrapping themselves in their waterproofs, they will entrust the posting of sentries to their sergeants, who in turn will perhaps let the sentries relieve each other. There was no want of courage in the men—they wanted direction and a leader. Had a habit of proper vigilance been inculcated by superior officers, and an example set, this disaster would not have happened.

"In the advanced works of Greenhill there appears to have been the same want of caution and alertness as at Frenchman's Hill. A covering party of the 50th Regiment were protecting the work, having relieved a corresponding force from the 20th Regiment. The Russians advanced up the ravine, which divides the French extreme right from our extreme left, and thus attacked the advanced work in flank. The men of the 50th Regiment were taken by surprise, but succeeded, after an obstinate resistance, in driving the enemy back. They suffered, however, considerable loss—17 being killed and about 35 men wounded. Captain Frampton and Lieutenant Clarke are reported missing, and it is presumed were made prisoners.

"The attack on the French works was very determined and obstinate, and the contest continued for nearly an hour after all the fire of musketry had ceased in the British position.

The following account of this affair is given by Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy of the 50th Regiment, who was engaged in it: "On the evening of the 20th I went to the trenches, in command of the guard of 1,200 men. It was a fine, clear, starlight night, and I was congratulating myself on my luck with Thompson, when all of a sudden the Russians opened a heavy fire of artillery from one of their batteries upon the trenches, and the shells came hissing like a basket full of snakes over our heads. This was quite an unexpected salute, particularly as the time was only 2 o'clock in the morning. The men all jumped up at once, and were ready for anything. It so happened that the 50th occupied the posts of danger: 120 men under Frampton being in the most advanced parallel, and 300 men in support, in the second parallel, under Möller, while my place was in the main trench with the rest of the guard. However, being anxious to be assured that all was right in the front, I ran out, and got there just in time; for a strong and overpowering body of the enemy had rushed on Frampton's party, and had driven them in. They came on boldly to the second parallel, but we received them with a sharp fire, and they checked; however, a small body of them managed to get round our left into the parallel. I called to the men to charge, which was done instantly and effectively, and we killed or drove all out. They still remained in our front, firing. I then led two companies of the 38th Regiment, which I had ordered up in support, right over the parapet, and we cheered and charged down on the left flank of the Russians, who then took to their heels, when we gave them some parting volleys. I cannot be too thankful to God for his merciful protection over me through this night's work. Inkermann was nothing to it, so far as I was concerned.—Of course I was obliged to be foremost. There is now the sad part of the affair to be told. Poor Möller fell mortally wounded, and he died about an hour ago, and my old friend Frampton has not been found since. I have also to regret the loss of Mr. Clarke,

a very good young officer, for he has not been found either. Frampton was last seen calling to his men to stand; and I am in hopes that both of them were untouched, and have been taken into Sebastopol. We shall learn their fate in a day or two. Besides these officers, I have lost 14 men killed, and 8 taken prisoners, (these 8 all belong to the Light Company), and 14 wounded. The 50th had 400 men present; so you see what a severe tussle we had for the possession of the trenches. I very narrowly escaped a bayonet stab in my right thigh; the fellow's bayonet stuck in my great coat, but the next instant he was blown away from the muzzle of the firelock of one of the 50th. The whole affair lasted about an hour. If the praises of man are good for anything (although I don't set much value on them 'tis as well to have them as long as one remains in this world), I ought to be very well satisfied, for I have come in for a large share of this night's work. When I got out among the men of the 50th, and they heard my voice telling them to fix bayonets, to keep together, and saying, 'Now, show them what the 50th can do,' several of them said, 'Oh! by gor, there is our colonel; we are all right now; follow the colonel, boys.' &c. Sir Richard England called at my tent yesterday, and told me that Lord Raglan desired him to tell me that he felt much obliged for my conduct. The Adjutant-General also called to congratulate me upon my escape, and said that he was very glad that I was the man who happened to have the command.'

On the 9th of December a naval sortie was made from the harbour. It is described in a letter published in the *Constitutional*; but the English ship mentioned by the writer was not the Terrible but the Valorous. "On the 6th, at two in the afternoon, two Russian vessels, one of which was the famous Vladimir, sailed out of the harbour in the direction of Streletzkaia Bay, protected throughout their course by the quarantine fortifications. Their object seemed to us to be to reconnoitre the positions of our left, and to do some damage if possible to the Caton and another of our steamers, at anchor in the bay. But the Megère aviso, which was en vidette before the port, having signalled their manoeuvre, our vessels in Kamiesch Bay got up their steam, and prepared to make for the enemy. However, the distance from the port of Sebastopol to Streletzkaia Bay being very short, the Russian ships had time enough to approach the bay, driving the little Megère (which only carries two guns) before them. They began to fire upon the Caton, which bravely responded. While this was going on, we saw the English frigate Terrible rush like an enraged lion upon the Russian ships. They had already received some well-directed bullets from the Caton, and as soon as they saw the Terrible coming they sheered off as fast as they could under the protection of their batteries. I never saw a more splendid spectacle than the advance of the Terrible. She flew like an arrow. Although the Russians ran away too soon for the Terrible to come up with them, she sent two rattling broadsides after them, and bravely stood the fire of the batteries, which opened upon her vigorously. In spite of his precipitate flight, the enemy must have sustained some loss both from the Caton and the Terrible. The only loss in the whole affair on the side of the Allies was two men on board the Terrible. I must not forget to say that the Megère gallantly followed the Terrible, and blazed away with her two guns as resolutely as if she had been a great ship."

Innumerable private letters describe the condition of the army and the privations and sufferings of the men. The correspondent of the *Morning Herald* writes, on the 28th November:—

"We sleep in rain and mud, get up in rain and mud, walk about in rain and mud, and in the evening retire to our oozy beds with feelings of grim dis-satisfaction that we were not born tortoises or alligators, so that we might look forward with something like satisfaction to the prospect of passing the next six months in a puddle. If there is any truth in the virtue of a cold-water cure, assuredly we ought to be the healthiest army in Europe. Of course our readers, thinking of the dirty crossings in

Bond Street and Pall Mall, will soliloquise over a comfortable breakfast, and say, 'Yes, the camp must be very muddy;' but let me entreat them to believe they know nothing about it. During the course of my wanderings I have seen some dirty places, but I never saw 'mud' sheer, deep, tenacious mud, till I came to the Crimea. In fact, if you can imagine an Irish bog that has had the horse, carriage, and passenger traffic of a large city over it for three weeks, you will be able to form some idea, though but a faint one, of the state of the route between the camp and Balaklava. From the appearance of this path it seems perfectly astonishing how any communication can be maintained between the camp and the source of our supplies. Ever since the repulse we received at Balaklava, when we lost our doubts, and the main road to Sebastopol (and none of which, no matter what miserable evasion our official despatches may make about the matter, we have retaken up to this day), the path to the English camp has lain over the sea-side hills to the French lines, and so along them to the English. This route is about three miles longer than that which we formerly possessed: but the distance would be nothing if the road was good. As it is, it is a mere path over a stiff clay soil, winding down ravines and up steep hills perpetually. Yet by this road, such as it is, the whole communication between Balaklava and the camp has to be carried on. All the commissariat carts, all the forage, provisions, shot, shell, and ammunition of all kinds, ambulances, artillery, and cavalry, have to pass over it daily; and the effects of three weeks' rain on such a route may be imagined far easier than described. In some places between steep hills, where the mud has settled down, the path has been quite abandoned and a new one made; yet even by the new one the horses have to struggle up to their bellies in thick slush. The sides of the road are quite dotted with dead horses, broken down artillery-waggons, or commissariat-carts stuck fast in the tenacious mire. Another week's rain, and this road must be impassable."

Correspondent of the *Times*, December 6th:—"There are many points on which a little attention and care would save great trouble to the men, and husband their strength. For instance, the coffee which is served out to the men is the green unburnt berry. The men have neither roasting nor grinding apparatus. The top of the mess tin is made to do duty for the one, and is spoilt; a couple of stones is used in lieu of the other, and spoil the coffee; but the hardship of roasting and grinding the berry over small bits of sticks and in wet and storm, can only be known by those who try to get a breakfast by adopting these conditions of obtaining it. Why not send out good coffee ready ground in handy tins? Surely it is not worth while to practise economy on such a dear article as a soldier. The French are generally provided with coffee-mills and roasters, but even when they have no such appliance experience has suggested a hundred means of supplying the deficiency. These are not 'grumblés,' but honest complaints against the perpetuation of remediable grievances. The want of clothing, the want of fuel, the want of shelter, the want of food, which have cost the army and the nation so dearly, might, I sincerely and solemnly believe, have been obviated by a small exertion of ordinary 'prévoyance.' The articles which are arriving to day in the Belgravia should have been here long ago; and the supplies we are expecting daily, however welcome, are late. They will be of service only to those who survived, or have maintained health and strength under cold and wet. We have tents, but cannot get them up to the camp. There is a great deficiency of hospital marquees; and, horrible as it is to think of such a thing, it is no less true, that, according to information received from no doubtful source, five men of a battalion of the Guards were found dead outside one of the tents within the last thirty hours."

Correspondent of the *Daily News*, Dec. 6:—"The Russian Emperor's most powerful and faithful ally, disease, has been actively at work among the British troops. The continued rain, the insufficient diet, even of the salt ration, from the failure of the means of transport, and the almost impassable state of the roads, the constant exposure and absence of shelter, spare

clothing and want of fuel for firing, have been the chief agents of this ally. The regiments lately arrived, and the recent draughts from England, have particularly suffered. The 46th Regiment have now buried upwards of 100 of their number; the 97th Regiment, which has only been encamped a fortnight, have already lost 36 men. One-seventh of the Light Division is on the sick list, and the daily burials are numerous. In spite of all that has been written on the subject in the English journals, and the outcry raised among the public, there is a great want of medicine and medical comforts in the camp. The regimental surgeons complain that they cannot obtain the particular kinds of medicine they require, nor any medicines in sufficient quantities. One division (the Fourth) has been without meat for two days, others have been on half or quarter rations. The only division having full rations has been the First. The rice has been discontinued for some time past. I believe it has been given to the Ottoman troops. The coffee is still issued in the green state. When the arabs became disabled, and the cattle, already weakened by a short-sighted parsimonious allowance of grain and fodder, broke down also, the commissariat officers placed their chief dependence for bringing up the supplies to the regiments on the company bat-horses, eight of which had been landed for the service of each regiment. But these, worn out by their heavy loads and daily journeys, their hoofs worn down and feet tender, because there have not been any arrangements made by which they could be shod, have now in a great number failed. Their allowance of barley has been increased from six to nine pounds daily; but this measure comes too late. Roads also are being paved, both in Balaklava and in the direction of the new redoubts, waiting for their guns on the right of the position above Sebastopol; but, as may be imagined, the accumulation of mud, and the comparative difficulty of obtaining the necessary stones for the purpose, now renders this operation very difficult."

The private letters from officers and soldiers continue to be very interesting. An officer of the 4th Light Dragoons writes on the 12th December:—"Our horses are improving, and our men regaining their former good spirits very rapidly. Drafts of all regiments continue to arrive almost daily. The weather for the last four days has been beautiful—quite like summer. Pray don't send any more warm clothing, as I have plenty. Ships have lately all brought out some, and supplied us all."

An Indian officer writes:—"In my opinion, had the men a change of clothing, they would be just as healthy here as anywhere else. The weakly die off, as they always will in a hard campaign. I hear little complaint among the men; the officers are the ones who complain, and in two days upwards of two hundred sent in their resignations. This shows our faulty military system. There is no want of gallantry among the officers, but the army is not their profession. They do not look to it as their home—as the only thing they have to look forward to. On the day of battle they are ever foremost; but it is the work—this incessant hardship without any apparent end—that they cannot and will not stand. Some of our regiments are nearly without officers. I think more promotion from the ranks might be tried with success. I do not think it generally answers during peace, but I think it might be tried on a greater scale during war: you then get a class of men whose home is the army, who must live and die by it."

A soldier of the 93rd Highlanders writes to his wife:—"My dear Jean,—I take another opportunity of sending you a few lines, to let you know that I am still very well, notwithstanding our many hardships and difficulties. We have not had any battles since my last, but no one knows the moment; there are 30,000 Russians lying within two miles of us, as we can see daily, and Sebastopol still holds out, though it is expected that before the end of this month the French and English will be in possession of that great fortress, which would be a great blessing for us all, for our lives are torn out of us watching the enemy. My dear, I see by the papers that they are trying to make a peace, and

I sincerely hope they will succeed, for I am very tired of the campaign, though I am not half so bad off as my comrades. I have a house to live in, and a comfortable bed on the floor, and a very kind master. We had a draft landed the other day, and your illustrious friend — came with them. Our women are in a wretched state, they have little teats of their own, and they are spending all the money they saved in Turkey. I am thankful to God for the great blessing of health he has bestowed upon me when thousands have been cut away by disease and trouble, and if I am but spared to come through this war I shall retire from the service and live in peace for the remainder of my days. My dear, I hope my pretty little Jamie is well, and if you can possibly do so, send him to school. I think I shall be able to send you other two pounds at the end of this month, if spared, and I hope you got the last all safe. Try to send me the papers, for I weary very much for news from home, and write as often as you can, for I look for your letters every mail. Our auld country folks have been very kind to us. They have sent out for our winter clothing a new great coat, red coat, trousers, two pair of flannel drawers, two flannel shirts, two pair socks, home-spun, and one pair of boots. I am proud of the country I belong to, though I think the army has wrought for it all. But just wait till I come home with my breast covered with medals and clasps of honour, all for the old country. I have not time to say more at present, but hope the Lord will spare us to meet once more, and that soon. My dear, I hope the blessing of God will be with you both until the day comes when we shall not need pens to communicate with. Kiss Jamie, and say it is from his Ta. Kind love to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson.—I remain, my dear, your truly affectionate, GEORGE INGLIS, 93rd Highlanders, British Army, Crimea."

A corporal of the 95th pays a tribute to General Pennefather:—"Sir de Lacy is gone away sick, and so is our Brigadier Pennefather. A braver soldier never drew a sword: if you could but hear his 'Hurrah my darlings,' and bullets flying round him like hail, you could not but admire the fine old fellow; all the brigade are sorry for him (the Irish brigade as we call ourselves)." The same writer speaks of the Turks—"Our chaps and the French are all right, and would do anything for each other, but a Turk gets no quarters. The friendly 'Bono Johnny,' with which we used to greet them in Bulgaria, is now exchanged for 'Go to —, you cowardly rascals.' I suppose you will have seen in the papers that they ran away from a fortified position they were entrusted with near Balaklava, and which we had to retake, at a great sacrifice of life. We have them now at the only work they are fit for, making entrenchments and repairing the roads."

A private soldier writes to his parents at Hertford:—"Dear Mother and Father,—I received your kind and affectionate letter, and I am very happy to hear that you are in the enjoyment of good health, as this leaves me at present. Thank God for it. Dear mother, I have sent you a Christmas-box [the letter contained 2*l.*] to drink my health, and I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year, and many another till I return. We had a glorious fifth of November, from six in the morning till five in the evening. It was nothing but hot work; and many's the brave man who fell at the battle of Inkermann's hill. I am happy to tell you that we are well looked after. We were all served out with a flannel shirt and drawers and socks, and we are to be served out with woollen comforters for the neck, instead of the stock. They are all free of expense. And we are receiving large reinforcements from France and Turkey every day, so that the duty is not so bad as it was. Dear Father, I have no doubt that you hear more about the war in the Crimea than I can tell you of it. I hope you will let me know if you are in want of a pound or two, I will let you have it as long as I am on the campaign. Dear mother, I hope you will send me *The News of the World* and *The Illustrated London News*—two newspapers. They will cost you but a few pence. Give my best respects to Mrs. — and tell her to remember me to — though I have no doubt I shall hear from her before you receive this. Dear Mother, I hope you will not forget the newspapers

and six stamps. And, as I have no more to say at present, I must conclude with my kind love and affection for you both, and believe me to remain your ever affectionate son, WILLIAM BRADLEY."

A letter from a wounded soldier of the Light Cavalry to his brother, written from the hospital at Scutari, draws a picture of the terrible "death-ride" — the charge led by Lord Cardigan at Balaklava, by far the most graphic and striking that has yet been given:— "The battle of Balaklava was certainly a disastrous affair for our poor Light Cavalry. The cowardly conduct of the Turks, in the first instance, made a great odds to us all through the day, the Russians having such play at us from our own redoubts and using our own shot and shell. However, our marine artillery, with a tremendous range, with some ships' guns which they had planted on the heights close above Balaklava harbour, soon regularly shelled them out of the redoubts. They now made a bold stroke for it, in their way, and came over the hill with most of their army, including a great many cavalry. The first thing they did (a large cloud of Cossacks) was to charge about three companies of the 93rd Highlanders, who, however, gave them such a warm reception that they turned to the rightabout pretty sharp. Our heavy dragoons, first the Scots Greys and Enniskillens, charged slap at the whole front of the cavalry, with the infantry in rear. They went down at first like reeds before our Heavies, but as there was only about one bonnie Grey or bold Enniskillen to so many Russians, they began to outflank them, when the rest of the heavy brigade charged and drove them back like a flock of sheep. The light brigade was ordered to the pursuit; we and the 4th Light were on the extreme left flank, covering a troop of horse artillery, to keep back a division of them who were trying to outflank us in that direction. After their artillery and ours had battered away at each other for some time, the balls coming hot and strong through the coverers, a French battery of heavy metal opened on them from the rear of the Sebastopol heights, drove them back, and we could see the Chasseurs d'Afrique coming down at a gallop. It was just about this time we got the order to pursue, so off we went to the rear after the retiring party; we had to get through a vineyard, over a mud wall and ditch, and there were a good many 'downers' and some fun. When we got through we went tearing up the hill after them. The Heavies were close on their rear. The Lancers and others of the Lights were closing on them, and we were coming up at a good pace and nearly into them, when they got over the hills beyond the redoubts, into their stronghold in the valley, when they brought their guns to bear upon us. We retired out of range, and sat fronting them, when they formed as nice a trap as could possibly have been, and which nobody but a blind man could have missed seeing. They planted guns on the hills right and left of the valley, and all their field-pieces at the end right facing us. I believe Captain Nolan was sent to reconnoitre the hills on each side. Whatever report he took to Lord Raglan we know not, but I expect he reported they were all clear, as he came back with an order to Lord Lucan for the light brigade to charge and take the field guns, and the ammunition and guns taken from the Turks. Lord Lucan asked if Lord Raglan was aware of the enemy's position? 'There is the order, and there is the enemy,' Nolan is reported to have said. Lord Cardigan then got the order as given, and gave the order for the brigade to advance in two lines — first the 17th, 18th, and 13th, second the 11th and 4th. Off we went tearing towards destruction. The round shot came first, killing many a poor fellow. One most wonderfully came past my shoulder, striking my rear-rank man right in the chest. Onward we went. I could see the shell bursting over our heads, and hear the grape and canister hissing through us. The cross fire was murderous — a square of infantry and guns with grape and canister pelting through us and shelling from the opposite heights. But I felt or feared nothing — a sort of wildness came over me, and I seemed to care not where I went or what I did. Onward still! The first line had retired, the guns were silenced, and, retiring behind a large horde of Cossacks, they formed a front

but would not stand our charge, but galloped through guns and everything. We cut down the gunners, and literally took the whole lot. The Cossacks came out by twos and threes, and kept firing away at us from their long pieces, annoying us dreadfully. We looked anxiously round for a support, when we perceived what we considered the 17th Lancers a good distance in the rear of us. 'Hurrah, my boys,' sung out our brave Colonel Douglas, 'let's give them another charge; the 17th will be up then, and we'll take guns home with us.' 'Come on, lads,' said Lord George Paget, his gallant brother-in-law, colonel of the 4th Lights. I found myself as excited as possible, singing out, 'Come on, boys; anything is preferable to sitting quietly and being shot at. At last some one gave the alarm that it was a large body of Russian Lancers, formed up to cut off our retreat. 'There's no help for it,' said Lord George Paget, 'we must retire, and cut our way through them as well as we can.' We went threes about, and went calmly to the rear. They did not attempt to cross our front, but attacked our right flank and rear. I was pretty near the right flank, and, of course, retiring in the rear rank; I had allowed my horse to flag a little, when one of the gentlemen came on to attack me with his lance at a slanting position, and was making a pike for my back; I wheeled round in the saddle, parried his lance, and gave him a second rear point to the left of his right shoulder, which I expect will spoil his lancing for some time. I was quite chuckling to myself over this affair, when we came to the horrid cross-fire again. I had not gone far through till I got a rap in the leg as if from a sledge hammer. I looked down and saw the blood gushing from a good-sized hole. 'Now then, old horse' — he had carried me well through the campaign — 'save my life now!' (I had seen all over the field four or five Cossacks spiking any poor fellow who was down.) I kept the right spur at work, and galloped a mile or more, when I began to get quite blind and faint; I saw only a tent chum, I hailed to lend a hand, he heard me and came galloping, he stopped me the first thing, and gave me a good drink out of his water-bottle; that revived me, and I just got to where the regiment was forming and old Cardigan was sitting with the tears almost in his eyes, when he saw his smart brigade so cut up; our fellows cheered him, when he said, 'You must not think, men, this is one of my mad-brained actions; I would have given almost anything rather than it had happened.' I moved forward and asked to be taken to the rear; I was hurried off to the doctor (the assistant), who had a lot of our officers and men in the nice green ditch of a vineyard, where we could lie up the slope; I had lost a tremendous deal of blood, and one of the officers gave me a good swig of brandy out of his flask. The doctor stopped the bleeding, and we had to wait some time for the ambulance, which came at last and took us off to the hospital, and you know the rest. Give my love to all our family; break this affair very gently to my mother, and tell her I shall write in a day or two, but it is a great exertion; and now, dear —, hoping and trusting that God will allow me to see you all again, believe me your most affectionate brother."

This brave fellow had his leg shattered, and it was amputated in a temporary hospital at Balaklava. "I was," he says, "sent aboard ship that evening, and steamed down here in a couple of days. It would have been a good job for me if I could have disembarked next day, but the weather came on rough, and only the slightly wounded could move. I lay between decks in that steamer for ten days. You could not get any attendance, but the rain came through the deck above, and regularly saturated you; the consequence of which was that by the time I got ashore my leg had taken an unfavourable turn, and I have since had a very bad bout with it, but now the doctors say it has taken a favourable turn again. I think so myself, and thank God for it. My leg is cut off very long, about a foot below the knee, so that if I can get on all right I can have a cork leg; and, having both my arms, I can earn a good livelihood yet."

The sick and wounded soldiers from the hospital at Scutari, who, to the number of 200, have arrived at Liverpool, have received the most hospitable attentions

from the inhabitants. Ample accommodation was provided for them in the Brownlow Hill workhouse, the apartments set apart for their use comprising the new medical and surgical wards recently added to the establishment. On the 16th instant they were visited by the mayor, the rector, and members of the vestry; the chairman and members of the Medical Relief Committee, the inspecting field-officer, and other leading individuals. The men were entertained with an excellent breakfast in the great dining-hall, at which the mayor and other gentlemen were present; and an ample dinner and supper were also provided. The different wards were carefully visited and inspected; and everything indicated ease and comfort.

"Although (says the *Liverpool Mercury*) many a melancholy countenance peeped out from those sick beds, laughter rang through the rooms, and there was a pervading cheerfulness among the brave fellows that dispelled the gloom which occasional causes might have created." From the accounts given by that paper we extract a few particulars of peculiar interest, as illustrative of the opinions and ways of thinking prevalent in the army which these men represent:—"The men, though cordial, were scarcely so communicative as might, under the circumstances, have been expected. When questioned about their personal adventures, they invariably entered into detailed accounts of each engagement; and they 'spun yarns' as long as any tar ever did. In mingling with them, however, we took particular interest in eliciting the feelings and opinions of the men respecting their commander-in-chief, Lord Raglan. His character and abilities have been so freely canvassed of late, that the individual opinions of the soldiers will be looked upon with no little curiosity. The result of these inquiries have led us to believe that Lord Raglan, notwithstanding the insinuations of his traducers, is actually idolised in the army. Going up to a private in one of the regiments of the line, we began a conversation, and led him, by an easy transition, to pass an opinion upon the general. 'Why, sir,' he said, 'I fought on the Sutlej under Lord Gough and Lord Hardinge. They were looked upon as splendid fellows, but there never was a general better liked by his soldiers than Lord Raglan.' Another private who joined us, said he was very attentive to the men, and that he had frequently seen him riding about before the battle of Inkermann. A corporal of the Grenadier Guards, overhearing the remark, exclaimed, 'Why, the men thought he was far too much among the bullets.'

"A member of the select vestry entered into familiar conversation with a wounded man of the 56th Regiment, and asked him what he thought of the commander. 'A braver man never breathed,' was the ready response, 'I saw him at Balaklava, riding up and down, and looking after everything.' There was about a dozen of the wounded men, consisting chiefly of the 20th, 27th, and 55th Regiments, clustered round a large fire in the middle ward, reading the newspapers which the governor had generously distributed amongst them. It was only necessary to listen a moment to see that the greatest indignation was felt by all of them at the attacks made upon Lord Raglan. 'There never was a better general,' exclaimed one of them, 'and right well every man in the army knows it.' A most hearty assent was given to this sentiment.

"It is hardly necessary to say that there is the greatest esteem for General Sir de Lacy Evans, General Sir George Brown, and General Cathcart. The French commander, Caurobert, comes in for a share of praise; but the great favourite seems to be the Duke of Cambridge, who is never mentioned but you hear a dozen exclaim all at once, 'Plucky fellow, that!'

"What do you think of Miss Nightingale?" "Oh, a noble lady," replied the poor fellow, who was suffering from wounds and dysentery. "She's worth all the nurses at Seutari. She's here, there, and everywhere. You never lose sight of her." A private of the 17th Light Dragoons enthusiastically added—"Why, she's worth more than seventy doctors put together. The doctors are awfully rough, but she's very gentle." There was abundance of provisions for men, but not for horses, up to the 5th of November. "Why, Bill," said one of

them, "the Crimea was nothing compared to the campaign in Bulgaria." "No," added Bill, "fighting is better than sickness, after all."

"If any one were at all sceptical about the cordial alliance of the English and French troops, a walk through these wards would remove the doubt. A private of the Coldstream Guards described that they had been fighting four hours on the day of the battle of Inkermann, and were quite overpowered, when the Zouaves rushed up to the enemy, raised a tremendous cheer, signed to the English to retire a few paces, and, stationing themselves within a few yards of the advanced line of the Russians, poured in one deadly volley after another from their Minie rifles. 'The French are rare chaps,' one of the Grenadier Guards interposed; 'after the Inkermann row they ran up to us and slapped us on the back, and kissed us, and shouted Hurrah! The French cook better than us. They are allowed to plunder. They pulled down lots of old houses at Balaklava to get wood, but we were not allowed. Lots of goats and pigs were running about the streets of Balaklava when we went in. The French seized them. There was a general order against us taking anything; but the French gave us a capital share of their plunder.'

"What sort of fighters are the Russians?" a sergeant of the 44th regiment was asked. "They're very brave," he answered, "behind their walls and entrenchments, but bring them on the plain and they're not good stuff. If 14,000 of the allies could lick 60,000, and kill, wound, or take prisoners 15,000 of them, they're not such fine chaps." The fact that the Russians do not elevate their muskets when they fire is not generally known. "The Russians never take aim," observed a private of the 23rd regiment, "they load their gun resting it on the left hip, and present it from the right hip when they fire. They make bad shots, and mostly wound us in the legs. The shoulder after all."

"It was stated by some of the sick men that very great indignation was felt in the army after the battle of the Alma. The Russian wounded and prisoners, they state, were taken care of, and had plenty to eat and drink, and medical attendance, while the allies were utterly neglected, and had to fast two days. There seems to be no sympathy felt amongst the men for the Russian soldier; and several incidents were related of wounded Russians firing their pieces at our prostrate men, and stabbing them while lying side by side. This conduct led to an order from the Duke of Cambridge to break the firelock of every wounded Russian. 'Did you see the Russians stab our wounded?' was a question put to a private of the 44th Regiment. 'No, but I saw the Russian officers stoop from their horses and stab them with their swords.' One of the men said he saw half-a-dozen Russians at the battle of Inkermann, who were not more than 200 yards from him, stab a wounded Englishman. This story was current at Seutari. Indeed, there was no doubt in the English ranks that such a practice was common amongst the Russians, and that their officers not only connived at, but actually encouraged it.

"Whilst the Rev. Rector Campbell and the other members of the select vestry were inspecting the wards, a private of the 4th regiment, wounded in the chest, and who wore a Sobraon medal, advanced towards them, and said, 'Gentlemen, we thank the citizens of Liverpool for the kindness we have received since our arrival here, with all our hearts. It has quite cheered up our hearts to find that we were received so well by our countrymen; and it will be the means of exciting others that are now in the field, when they come to hear of the kindness done to us, to exert themselves with all their might in the defence of their country.' This manly and straightforward address was applauded by the men, and well expressed the gratitudo they all seemed to feel. The men were almost unanimous in their praise of the surgeon who attended them from Malta, Mr. W. P. Pinkerton, M.D., and his medical assistant. Although the building in which the sick and wounded men were accommodated is a workhouse, it is one of the most extensive and best arranged establishments in the kingdom, and they could not for a moment have supposed that they were at all degraded or neglected by being placed in such quarters."

The conduct of the commander-in-chief and the general officers has been severely criticised, on the ground of their alleged inattention to the condition and wants of the army. As a specimen of these remarks we quote the following, by the correspondent of the *Morning Herald*:

"Every regimental officer," he says, "repeats almost the same remarks; and first and foremost among the generals thus spoken of is the commander-in-chief, Lord Raglan. The complaint is that he is *never seen*—never quits his house—never makes his presence known to the troops, except by occasionally issuing a general order. He does not know what the troops suffer, for he takes care not to witness it. They are hungry, cold, and miserable—yet *not once* has he ever been among them to show himself or to utter a few cheering words, the recollection of which would for many a day lighten the men's hearts, by showing that they were not totally forgotten by their leaders, whose names they have made illustrious. If there is one officer out here more ignorant than any other of the feelings, the real wants and sufferings of the army, that one is Lord Raglan: and this ignorance can be his only excuse for the cold, the almost studied neglect, with which all ranks, except those on his immediate staff, are treated. At the smallest possible discomfort to himself, Lord Raglan might have become one of the most popular commanders that ever lived. Everything was in his favour, and at first he was liked in spite of himself; but now the opportunity has passed; and I will venture to say, that of all the recollections of bitter hardships which will survive this campaign, none will be more bitter or more enduring than the memory of the utter coldness and neglect with which Lord Raglan has treated the troops."

These representations are at variance with other statements. The *Morning Post* correspondent, on December 5th writes:—

"Lord Raglan and the members of his staff rode through the whole of the British camp yesterday. After the drenching rain of the previous night, he saw the state of the troops in its true colours. His lordship halted frequently, and asked many questions even of private soldiers whom he saw puddling about."

The *Moniteur de l'Armée* publishes an extract from a letter dated the 19th December:—

"Lord Raglan came this morning to our headquarters. He is a good rider and does not appear to feel the want of the arm which he lost at Waterloo. He looks well, has a good colour, with a beard a little grey. He came without any ceremony, wearing a cap covered with oilskin. The English are the most free and easy men we know."

The *Maidstone Journal* publishes the following extract of a letter from a private soldier:—

"Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, Lord Raglan has been out of doors daily, at different parts of the camp, so much so that some of his aides-de-camp have remonstrated with him, saying he had better allow them to do the work for him. He has been known frequently to give a hard-working private his own bread, and even to let some poor soldier have a good suck at his brandy bottle. The men venerate him, but rail against the government for not giving him proper means to enable him to make them more comfortable."

In the *Dublin Evening Mail* is a letter from a correspondent in Dundalk, who says:—

"A relative of mine, belonging to a distinguished cavalry regiment serving in the Crimea, has returned home on medical certificate within the last few days, and he assures me that he has constantly seen Lord Raglan both riding and walking through the lines, sometimes almost at break of day, and that when he left the camp there were no complaints in the army on that head."

A general court-martial was held on the 18th of December, when Francis Hagerty, a private in the 4th Regiment, was tried for having struck an officer and a sergeant while in the execution of their duty. The prisoner was drunk. He was found guilty, and sentenced to fifty lashes and twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, which Lord Raglan confirmed; but remarks: "The offences of which the prisoner has

been very properly found guilty are of so serious a character as to justify the infliction of the whole punishment awarded by the court; but, in consideration of the youth and inexperience of the prisoner, and the circumstances under which the crimes were committed, and in the hope that his expressions of sorrow and contrition are sincere, the Commander of the Forces is induced to remit all punishment, and to award his pardon; thus affording him an immediate opportunity of showing by his conduct that he is not unworthy of the lenity that is now extended to him."

A letter dated December 28th, gives a fearful account of the privations and hardships to which the troops are exposed. The writer says:—"Owing to the gross mismanagement of the commissariat, some of the divisions of the army have been on several occasions and for several days together without animal food of any kind. Half a ration of biscuit and the smallest quantity of rum, without coffee or sugar, is all they have had to subsist upon. They spend night after night in the trenches, exposed to pouring rain, wet to the skin and engaged with the enemy, who makes constant sorties. The men are dying from starvation and over-work. The loss from sickness has lately been at the rate of from 200 to 300 a-day." The writer, in conclusion, expresses anxiety about an expected package, wishing to learn by which ship it is likely to come, "as there is dreadful mismanagement in every department."

On the 1st of January the correspondent of the *Morning Post* describes the state of things at Balaklava. "I visited Balaklava this morning. Nothing can equal the confusion; the mass of consignments of warm clothing, blankets, hutting materials, stoves, charcoal, forage, barrels of beef and pork—all jumbled into one heterogeneous mass. A barrel of pork stands beside a bale of blankets here, and a stove beside hutting materials there, and so on. So rapid have been the arrivals, and so eager for disembarking, that the wharf and all around is like one vast storehouse, without form, fashion, or order. From the huts which have arrived the Quartermaster-General has determined to erect a few at Kadakoi as a receiving store, to ease the stores at Balaklava. The harbour is very small, and hence the confusion. The town does not afford a sufficiency of stowage for the immense mass of clothing, and the hutting materials which arrive daily. As regards the former, as usual, the roofing is on board one ship, the body of the hut on board another; one vessel is here, the other God knows where. Boards and timber are being issued to regiments. To-day each regiment has been authorised to draw 5000 feet of sheeting, 100 pieces of scantling, and 100 pieces of rafters. This is for the purpose of the hospitals in camp. Officers and men are allowed roofing, &c., for walls of huts which they may have built; but the question arises, how are they to get it up? Only by carrying it up on their backs. Some baggage-horses have been landed lately, but still these are not sufficient. The general opinion is that we shall neither have huts nor anything else before the cold weather sets in, and that cannot be long. If we had conveyances up to the camp all would be well, and we should relieve the harbour very much."

On the subject of provisions the same writer says: "A great cry is now made for want of fresh meat for the troops. Scurvy has made its appearance, and only about once or twice a month do the troops obtain fresh food. Sir Edmund Lyons said the other day that nothing was more easy than to procure cattle from the different ports along the Asiatic and European coasts of the Black Sea. Upon a question being put by Sir Edmund Lyons to Lord Raglan the other day, as to whether he was prepared to give sixpence or even a shilling per pound for meat, his lordship answered, 'Yes; even eightepence, sooner than the men should want fresh meat.' He added 'that the country did not mind what they paid, providing they could give good and wholesome food to the troops.' According to the system of our commissariat, with the view to purchase cattle, it is necessary to send an officer of that department to collect, at a certain port, as many head of cattle as he possibly can, and then ship them to the Crimea. The French are quite different; they send an officer, who proceeds

in a small vessel to every creek and harbour, collects ten here, twenty there, and so on, and returns in half the time, besides insuring the troops a supply of fresh meat regularly. If our present system is followed, and the troops have so much salt meat, scurvy will do as much this winter as cholera did last summer."

The superior administration and greater comforts of the French troops are described by the correspondent of the *Daily News* :—"The East shore of Kamiesch Bay now presents a very animated scene. The distance between the head-quarters of General Canrobert and the port of debarkation is between six and seven miles. An excellent macadamised road, with a trench on one side, and drains running beneath at intervals, has been nearly completed the whole way; and along this route may be seen constantly passing lines of mules carrying well-balanced packages of biscuit from Marseilles or Toulon, or other 'vivres militaires,' destined for the respective divisions of the army, and trains of waggons, 'equipages militaires,' also drawn by mules, bringing planks, chests, forage, and every description of army stores in the same direction. Up to the very end of the harbour itself, as far as depth for anchorage can be obtained, almost from its mouth, is densely packed a long line of merchant-vessels, ranged side by side in rows varying in depth according to the variations in shape and capacity of the bay, from eight or ten to five-and-twenty in number in each row. Stretched across the wider part of the bay near its communication with the sea are several large line-of-battle ships, between which from time to time is sailing in and out some of the smaller merchant craft. Several large vessels are lying in Double Bay beyond; and from the point of Cape Chersonese, with its white lighthouses along the coast towards Sebastopol, other war-steamer and ships are moving along, or lying at anchor. The new town is built, or rather encamped, towards the southern end of the harbour; the military stores, landing-places, and offices being nearer to the seaboard. The principal street, the 'Rue de Commerce,' consists of two lines of booths and stalls of every imaginary shape and contrivance for answering the double object of protecting the articles from the weather and at the same time exposing samples with an inviting aspect to the gaze of the visitor. Masts, beams, rigging, and canvas from the ships, have been the chief materials used in the construction of these shops and dwelling-places. Every house is numbered, and placards announce the name and place of connexion of its merchant proprietor, and the principal wares to be sold. Articles of clothing, preserved provisions, and groceries, are the staple commodities. Wines and French liquors are to be obtained, but generally of an inferior description; the better sort can only be purchased on board the vessels in the harbour. Among the shopkeepers are several French settlers; and the regimental 'cantineurs,' in their trim military attire, may be seen busily following their active occupations. Some of the shopkeepers are Maltese; there are a few Germans also. Some very large stores with stone walls, and others of considerable extent made of wood, are rapidly advancing towards completion. In a short time the Rue de Commerce will be put into the shade by its broader and more solid neighbour, which is stretching up the hill and at right angles to it.

"Great activity prevails at the military end of the port. Stores are being landed from the ships, and packed on the beach, or are being carried up by the troops into temporary storerooms and depôts. Mules are coming down with empty pack-saddles, others are passing on their return to the camps laden with their respective burdens. Large piles of timber planking are stacked up, and there are heaps of grain and forage, casks and boxes of provisions. A number of Ottoman troops are encamped close by to assist in the labours of the port. These troops have made long lines of ground-huts for themselves, which appear sufficiently snug and warm."

The Rev. J. E. Sabin, in charge of the Chaplains' Department at Scutari, has written to Mr. Gleig, the chaplain-general, a very interesting letter on the condition of the hospitals there, from which we make the following extracts :—"A walk through our vast corridors

now, crowded as they are in every part, fills me with lively satisfaction, for I see how much has been done, and how rapidly, for the welfare of our soldiers. One corridor alone contains 225 beds, every one occupied, and the wards leading out of the same corridor contain 313 beds. The whole of this corridor has been repaved, and every ward had new floors and windows within the last month, and now it is occupied from end to end. Surgeries are built on the wide staircases, boilers for hot water are erected at intervals, stoves are kept constantly burning in each ward and down the corridor, which, to lessen the cold, is divided by wooden partitions; large tin baths are standing at the corners and entrances ready for use, and every man has a wooden bedstead and comfortable bed and bedding. Groups of men are sitting round the stoves reading, talking, and some few smoking, and altogether there is an air of comfort and enjoyment which I feared once never to see here. I have selected this one corridor to tell you of, because one month since it was unfit for use, and now is all that can be expected or desired. It has been rapidly completed under Mr. Gordon, an engineer officer; and the Turks, under our Sappers, have worked well. It has been completed, too, just as it was most needed, for we have had a great increase of sick during the last ten days, and without this corridor should have been sorely pressed for room. Our numbers now amount to 4200 sick and convalescents; distributed in barrack hospitals, 2500; in general hospital, 1000; on the two hulks, 700. Besides this, some 350 have been sent to Abydos. The medical staff seems now very efficient, and the number considerable—I should suppose nearly 100; and Dr. Macgregor, who had so ably and energetically worked the barrack hospital, is still at his post, and active as ever. While the men are cared for, the officers are not forgotten. A kitchen has been built for them, and a good cook placed there, who cooks all they send down, and also prepares jellies and broths when needed. No less than fifty officers' dinners were cooked there on Christmas-day. The expenses of this establishment are kindly defrayed by Mr. Macdonald out of the *Times*' fund. The men have their usual food cooked in two immense cooking-houses in the barrack-square, each containing eleven large coppers; but then comforts are supplied from the nurses' kitchen, and one meets at every turn immense bowls of arrowroot, sago, broth, and other good things. Every man who needs such nourishment is, upon the request of the medical officers, promptly and constantly supplied. This is most valuable help to the medical men, and I always feel thankful that no one can now be long without the food or wine required. A considerable change is taking place in our band of nurses, in consequence of the arrival of fifty new ones, under Miss Stanley. Miss Nightingale and Mrs. Bracebridge have gradually established the original band of nurses here, and this in spite of many and serious difficulties. What we all feared would be an impossibility has been admirably accomplished, and will, I doubt not, be continued with success. We have now, I am thankful to say, seven clergymen at work here, and one Presbyterian preacher, and five Roman Catholic priests—not one more than is needed, since 500 sick is a large number for one man to see and speak to, and almost impossible for him to know personally; but I hope more will be spared of the many who are coming. There are four regular services each Sunday, and holy Communion is administered each Sunday. Besides these, services are held at the general hospital, and on board each hulk, and in various corners of the barrack where a few of the invalids can be got together. The books we hear of as being sent out from the religious societies come in very slowly, but, perhaps, it is not time for them yet. The books and papers from the War-office come regularly, and are much used. It is very pleasing to see the groups of men collected round the stoves to hear one man read, or a poor fellow with one arm gone steady a paper or a book with the other, and I am glad to say that the most frequent book in their hands is the New Testament. Copies of the Queen's letters to Mrs. Herbert have been made and distributed, and also posted on the walls in various places. One of the clergy went into most of the wards and read the letter, ending with the prayer 'God save the Queen!' to which the response was almost startling,

so hearty and vigorous from the lungs of sick and dying men came the sincere 'Amen!' You may well suppose from our vast number the severe cases are many. The deaths during the last few days have been on an average thirty per diem, but this is not an excessive number (sad as it is) when the vast number here are considered. But amid all these scenes of suffering and death, I cannot tell you what a load is off my mind when I know that all are cared for and none neglected, and that we have such an efficient band of nurses, medical officers, and clergy. The unbounded liberality and sympathy of our friends at home are most cheering to us, and I cannot express to you how we rejoice in the expression of it, either in private letters or public prints. We are so glad to feel that we have a share in your thoughts and specially in your prayers; and the kind words from our homes, our country, our Queen, have reached the heart of all of us during our first Christmas out in Asia."

The present appearance of Sebastopol as seen from a position of the besiegers, is described by the correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, from whose account it appears that the place has been less injured than has been supposed:—“The real damage inflicted on the town of Sebastopol amounts to this—all the huts used by the dockyard labourers and the Turkish parts of the town outside the walls are nearly destroyed—that is, laid almost level with the earth. The walls are here and there marked with shot, but most unquestionably, as defences, they are still uninjured. One large barrack inside the walls against which our fire, as against a government building, has been particularly directed, is riddled in every part, and most of its roof destroyed. The same is the case with about sixty or seventy of the houses nearest to the walls, but beyond this nothing has been done. Had any of the principal mansions more to the centre of the town been injured, it would be easily seen, as most of them are detached, and all are as white as snow, and instantly show a shot-mark. The splendid structure which we call the ‘Parthenon’—the Government house—and, indeed, 19-20ths of the buildings, show no trace of injury. The streets which I could see, and which, of course, were those nearest to our batteries, were all in a most enviable state of cleanliness and good order. In these were numerous bodies of troops lounging about unconcernedly, with their muskets piled upon the pathways. Many civilians passed constantly to and fro, and now and then an ammunition wagon; but I saw no trace of either women or children, or vehicles of the ordinary description. Once during the time I was watching, three carts, laden either with sick or wounded—most probably the former—passed towards the north side of the town. None of the Russians appeared to take the least notice of their suffering comrades, so that one may not unreasonably argue that they have got as used to death and misery as ourselves. Near to the walls on the south are the ruins of some large building, which has evidently been burnt. This is the hospital in which so many of the Russian wounded unfortunately perished. Two or three more buildings near the dockyard are also blackened by fire, as if they had been ‘gutted,’ but the walls were too thick to permit the conflagration extending. Most of the houses in the Crimea—even peasants’ cabins—are built with stone, and of extraordinary thickness, for the purpose of resisting the tremendous gales which sweep this part of the world in winter. So much for the aspect of the town. Of the earthworks round Sebastopol it is more difficult to speak with accuracy. So numerous are these defences, that of them it is quite impossible to gain at once a near and extensive view. As far as I can judge from traversing nearly two-thirds of the allied lines, the enemy’s batteries appeared generally in good working order. Only in one or two instances were their embrasures masked—that is, closed up when a gun is dismounted—and these maskings I was informed by our officers would be merely temporary, as the enemy always managed to replace their artillery in twelve or fifteen hours. I myself have seen them do so within three. The whole of the enemy’s batteries are now protected by a deep ditch in front with regular *abattis* and rows of stockades and *chevaux de frise*. From this fact alone it is evident that they are guarding against, and, therefore, fear an

assault. But it is principally of the north side that I wish to speak. I was told before I set out upon my survey that I should be astonished at the immensity of the Russian batteries, reaching from the head of the harbour to the east, right round to Starfort and St. Severna on the north, and all of which had only been unmasked two days previous. I know something of the nature of Russian works, and the energy of Russian perseverance, but still the tremendous extent of new redoubts and batteries which I then saw thrown up all round the city did, indeed, astonish me. Every space from the circular earthwork and martello tower (the latter now a mere pile of rubbish), round to the sea near Cape Constantine, is one long line of redoubts and batteries. Malta, Gibraltar, or the lines of Chatham, all in one, would be far more vulnerable than these formidable entrenchments, covered with infantry, pits, and deep ditches in front, and protected by scarped banks, stockades, and masses of cannon. I have seen many of what are called first-class fortresses, but the present aspect of Sebastopol might vie with any.”

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Varna on the 25th of December, makes some observations, which deserve attention, on the character of the Turkish troops:—

“No one who visits Silistria and the Arab Tabia, with a full knowledge of the fact that in the latter, a small and insignificant fort, constructed in the depth of winter, with a ditch that the most timid rider who ever took the field in England would not hesitate to cross in a standing leap, a handful of Turks, never above a thousand in number, resisted forty days the attacks of an army of 60,000 men, well armed and well led, and provided with every requisite for carrying on siege operations with success, and thus, there can hardly be a doubt, changed the whole course of the campaign, and transferred the seat of war to the Russian territory, can help feeling surprised at the strong feeling of hostility towards, and contempt for, the Turkish soldier which has sprung up in the minds of many people in consequence of the unfortunate incident of the 25th Nov. in the Crimea. Either the Turkish soldier is a good soldier, is personally brave and fights well, or Oltentza, Csitate, and Silistria are so many dreams; and some hundreds of individuals from various parts of the globe, without personal interest in the matter and competent to form a correct judgment upon it, have entered into a conspiracy to propagate one of the most curious falsehoods and delusions recorded in the whole history of imposture and deceit. It is quite true, that at Kafafat the Turks were well led, and that many of their officers were Europeans—Hungarians, Poles, and others. At Oltentza they fought under the eye of Omar Pacha, who himself directed most of the movements in person. At Silistria the whole defence was conducted by an Englishman and a Prussian. At Giurjevo they were led by Englishmen. At Benzeo, the last affair of the campaign, the Turkish cavalry, commanded by an Englishman, charged and routed a superior body of Russians. But no one ever contended that officered solely as they are at present they could be looked upon as good European troops. At Sebastopol, owing to Lord Raglan placing too much reliance in their steadiness behind entrenchments, 300 men were placed in three redoubts, two miles distant from any support. When they saw 30,000 men advancing to attack them they ran away, the officers leading the van. This is just what I would have expected. Again, when they were formed on the flanks of the Highlanders, they likewise ran away, and everybody cries shame because the Turks did not receive a charge of Russian cavalry standing two deep, as if they, poor wretches, led by the offscourings of the populace, the vile favourites, chiboukies, and grooms of pachas, armed with flint-lock guns, half-clothed, and half-starved, can be expected to do everything that Highland regiments will do, in the highest state of discipline, well armed, animated by glorious traditions, and led on by men who fear dis honour more than wounds, and who are looked up to by the soldiers, not simply because of their military rank, but because of their greater intelligence, better education, and higher station in society. The poor Turk knows well that no one of his officers is a whit

better than himself in any point of view, while in a great many he is vastly worse. The private soldier is in general an honest, good-hearted peasant, personally brave as are all his race; his officer has in general been either a *pesevenk* or a *pushi*, coffee-server, or pipe-bearer to some pacha, a wretch, stupid in vice from his infancy, without honour or patriotism, who serves simply that he may plunder and embezzle. If you officered the British troops with the sweepings of the gaols, selected the leading pimps, burglars, publicans, betting-house and brothel-keepers of London, and made them captains, majors, and colonels, and then seized upon the able-bodied peasantry, armed them with flint-locks, clothed them in rags, and left their commissariat and pay in the hands of the officers, do you suppose they would receive charges of cavalry standing two deep, or that 8000 of them would support the attacks of 40,000 during the long gloomy hours of a November morning? The fact is, Turkish troops should never be put in a position of any kind in front of the enemy without several European officers being with them to animate them by their example, to prove to them that resistance is possible. In moments of great danger they have great confidence in the superior intelligence of the Frank, and will stick by him manfully. Captain Butler proved this in the Arab Tabia."

The following statement is given of the strength of the English army on the 1st of January:—Sergeants, 2,191; Drummers, 636; Rank and file, 38,085. Total, 40,392. Of this number, there were sick and wounded—Sergeants, 565; Drummers, 107; Rank and file, 12,747. Total, 13,419.

Omar Pacha arrived at Varna on the 31st of December, and next day sailed for the Crimea. On the 5th of January he was at the camp of the Allies. He concerted measures with the English and French commanders, and returned to Varna on the 6th. The Varna correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 3rd., makes some remarks on the condition of the Turkish troops in the Crimean army, and the ill-feeling existing between the Turks and their French allies. "The work of embarkation (he says) goes on as yet very slowly, owing to the refusal of the English and French to allot more than two steamers for the work, and it is alleged that the sailing vessels are no longer able to keep the sea. This display of stinginess as regards the steamers can be accounted for in no other way than by supposing that the allied leaders consider the coming or going of the Turkish troops of very little importance, and their aid of no great value; but this is a piece of presumption the folly of which is demonstrated by everything which has occurred on the Danube during the last eighteen months. The affair of Balaklava, about which there has been so much talk, is just what might have been expected from men led as the Turks were, placed as they were, fed and treated as they were. I am afraid they lead the lives of dogs, and very unfortunate ones, in the Crimea, if I may judge from the conduct of the French here at Varna, and from the fact that great numbers have deserted to the Russians at Sebastopol—a step which all who know the Turks know they would never take if their sufferings were not very great indeed. It is a curious instance of the injustice and fickleness of some portion of the public, that though the French had had their batteries carried and their guns spiked three times in the very centre of their line, not a word is said. The Turks are vile beyond measure because three hundred were driven out of redoubts two miles from their supports.

"Here the greatest ill-feeling prevails between them and the French, whose conduct towards them has certainly been anything but conciliatory, or even civil. For a long time past a man has hardly been able to make his appearance in the street with a fez on his head without being obliged to endure a shower of insults, poured upon him by every French soldier whom he meets. The result has been a series of rows, more or less serious, which reached their culminating point a few days before my arrival, when a party of drunken Frenchmen attacked some Turkish cavalry soldiers—drove them into the stable where their horses were feeding, and then set fire to the building, and burnt twenty horses and a large quantity of forage. It was only owing to

the heroic exertions of Lieutenant M'Bean, an English officer, that the Turks escaped with their lives, and the Pacha has consequently recommended him to his government for the decoration of the medjidia. Hardly a week passes in which riots do not occur, in which both parties use their side-arms freely, and between them contribute a very fair quota of wounded to the hospitals, and which are invariably followed by an exchange of notes between the Pacha and the French commandant, the correspondence seldom having any better effect than that of convincing each of them that the right is all on his side, and the wrong all on the other. Some stringent measures have, however, been taken lately, such as the closing of all wine shops and cabarets at seven o'clock in the evening, and the result has been a greater amount of quiet, and a less amount of disturbance and scandal. But there is one unfortunate consequence of all this ill-feeling, which no police measures could either remedy or prevent, and that is, a deep and cordial detestation of the French in the minds of all classes of the population. A Turk can now hardly speak of a Frenchman without spitting out, the greatest mark of hostility he can show. This is certainly greatly to be regretted; but it is so notorious, and so commonly talked of here, that I see no reason why I should pass it over in silence. All this is to be ascribed in great part, I think, to the intolerance of foreign usages and manners, based upon high ideas of their own superiority by which our allies, with all their good humour and pliancy, are unquestionably distinguished. For this, if for this only, they never have been, and never will be, great or successful [colonisers]; they have not the good-humoured indulgence, the half pitying, half contemptuous indifference with which Englishmen treat the weaknesses and oddities of races which they look upon as inferior to their own. It will take many a year to efface the unfavourable impressions they have made upon the Turks and the Bulgarians during their short stay at Varna. The English, on the contrary, are on the best possible terms with every one. They are still 'Bono Johnny' in the eyes of the Turks, and between them and the French the utmost cordiality prevails."

The latest accounts from the army are to the 12th instant. The health of the troops seemed to improve although the cold was severe. The daily deaths had fallen to ninety. The sheepskin coats for different regiments were being issued, and also rice to the troops in the usual manner. Lord Raglan had ordered that every man be served out with one pair of boots gratuitously. The weekly average of sick sent to Scutari amounted to something like 700 men. A permanent staff of medical men had been appointed to be on board each vessel taking sick to Scutari. About 500 wooden huts had arrived at Balaklava. The Royal Horse Artillery was to be employed to carry them up to the camp. It was intended, in the first place, to put up a sufficient number of huts outside Balaklava, to relieve the warehouses, which were already crammed, and had not sufficient room for the goods which arrive daily. It was also intended to establish a depot at head-quarters, with fourteen days' provisions for the whole army always in store. The enemy had opened a new battery opposite to the Guards' pickets, on the heights over Inkermann. The French took down our sick on the morning of the 4th on their ambulance mules, and General Canrobert ordered that the mules should return laden with provisions to the depot at head-quarters. Sixteen hundred hands were employed on the 2nd in bringing up provisions to head-quarters for the depot.—During the night between the 7th and 8th, the Russians made a sortie against the parallel in front of the battery No. 19. Waited for by our soldiers till they came up breast to breast, they were vigorously repulsed, and left several dead behind them.—During the night between the 11th and 12th one hundred and fifty Russians attacked our lines. After a hand-to-hand fight that lasted a few minutes, they were repulsed, leaving in our works seven dead and two wounded prisoners. Our loss amounts to seven wounded.—The hardships suffered by the troops were still very severe. The men were often obliged to eat their food raw, and many had died in consequence. Some officers, too, in trying to warm their tents with charcoal had been suffocated.—The Hon. Mr. Cadogan had arrived at

Varna, in order to establish telegraphic communication between Varna and Bucharest, so that no time may be lost in the transmission of intelligence from the Crimea; and with various other powers and instructions.

The following is a list of the clothing disembarked at Balaklava on January 9:—Woolen Jerseys, 49,480; flannel drawers, 48,448; socks (pairs), 65,288; comforters, woollen, 13,500; boots (pairs), 29,280; shoes (pairs), 4,120; trousers (pairs), 6,000; coatees, 5,934; great coats, 10,000; gloves, 50,234. Of other comforts that may be classed with clothing, there were landed:—Buffalo robes, 12,061; rugs, 24,200; paliasses, 19,200; bolster cases, 21,800; blankets (beyond the one carried by the men), 44,650; sheepskin coats, 1,515.

The following, by the most recent accounts, was the position of the *Black Sea Fleet*. On the 30th ult., there were at Eupatoria her Majesty's ship Leander, 50, Capt. the Hon. S. T. Carnegie; Curacao, 31, Capt. the Hon. G. F. Hastings; and Viper gun-boat, 4, Lieut. Lodder. At Balaklava were her Majesty's ships Sanspareil, 70, Capt. Heath; Diamond, 20, Capt. Peel; Wasp, 14, Commander Lord J. Hay; Vesuvius, 6, Commander Powell; Fireband, 6, Capt. Moorson; Sphinx, 6, Capt. Wilmet, Vulture, 6, Capt. Glassee; and Caradoc, 2, Commander Derriman. The seamen and naval officers of the Bellerophon, 78, Capt. Lord G. Paulet, had been ordered to rejoin their ship, while the marine officers and marines remained on shore. The Tribune, 31, Capt. the Hon. J. R. Drummond, it was expected, would relieve the Sanspareil as senior officer's ship at Balaklava, when the latter would go home. Admiral Lyons visited Balaklava on the 29th, and rode all over the lines there; he returned in the Beagle gun-boat to Chersonese the same evening. The Lion steamer had returned from Tendra Bay (near Odessa) with a cargo of hay, taken on board under the protection of the guns of the Highflyer and Gladiator.

A letter from *Odessa* of the 8th says: "It is not doubtful that Russia is preparing for a long and obstinate war. A great number of facts might be quoted to prove this, but we will cite only one. The buildings which were temporarily constructed last autumn at Ochta, in the government of Novgorod, because the storehouses and workshops of that military establishment, though more than large enough in ordinary times, were not considered sufficient, are about to be replaced by permanent constructions of such a nature as to prove they are not only intended as a protection against a *coup de main*, and even an attack of the enemy's fleets, but are intended to defy the more destructive effects of time."

A correspondent of the Vienna *Wanderer* writes from Warsaw that the exertions made to send large bodies of troops to the Crimea from the Danube are incessant. Prince Gortschakoff, on the 5th, ordered the recent diversion into the Dobrudsha, in order to prevent the Turks from leaving Varna for the Crimea. Large bodies of Russian troops have been ordered to concentrate themselves at Perekop, so as to afterwards advance on Eupatoria and attack the place by assault, if necessary. At the beginning of January two traders of Sebastopol, disguised as Tartars, and two Russian officers, dressed up as priests, were arrested at Eupatoria, and shot as spies. Prince Menschikoff lately offered an amnesty to such of the Tartar population as would return to their villages, but not more than 100 other individuals—women, children, and old men—left Eupatoria, to avail themselves of the prince's offer.

The *French Loan* raised for the expenditure of the war has met with remarkable success, without an appeal to the capitalists. The *Moniteur* of the 18th instant, announced that the sum total of the subscriptions amounts to 2,175,000,000 francs: 177,000 persons took part in the loan. Algeria, Corsica, and the offers to subscribe of some of the departments during the last few days, are not comprised in this amount. The departments furnished 126,000 subscribers, the subscriptions of whom give a capital of 777,000,000 francs. At Paris there were 51,000 subscribers, with a capital of

1,398,000,000 francs. The foreign subscriptions are comprised. England provided a capital of 150,000,000 francs; and Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, &c., a similar amount. The English subscriptions have been returned, as double the amount required had been subscribed.

The detachments of the new Imperial Guard, commanded by General Ulrich, and ordered for service in the Crimea, were reviewed by the Emperor on the 9th instant, in the Court of Honour in the Tuilleries. The soldiers were formed in squares in front of the Pavillon de l'Horloge; where the Emperor posted himself on horseback, the Empress sitting in the balcony above. Advancing to the front, the Emperor addressed the troops:—

" Soldiers—The French people in the sovereignty of their will have set up again many things deemed for ever dead, and now the empire is reconstituted. Intimate alliances exist with our former enemies. The flag of France waves with honour on distant shores, which until now the bold flight of our eagles has never reached. The Imperial Guard, the heroic representative of military glory and honour, is here before me, surrounding the Emperor as of yore, wearing the same uniform, carrying the same flag, and, above all, cherishing in its heart the same feelings of devotion to its country. Receive then these flags, which will lead you on to victory, as they led your fathers, as they have just led your comrades. Go and share what dangers yet remain to be surmounted, what glory to be gathered. Soon you will have received the noble baptism to which you aspire, and you will have helped to plant our eagles on the walls of Sebastopol."

Then dismounting, the Emperor presented flags to the two colonels commanding the Voltigeurs and Grenadiers; the Empress came down, and they walked arm-in-arm round the squares, repeatedly conversing with the soldiers.

Before the departure of the Guards, all the officers dined with the Emperor and Empress. Each officer was presented with a fur pelisse after dinner. As they were taking leave, the Emperor, "raising his voice," exclaimed—"Go! my thoughts will follow you into the distant country where you are going to combat for the cause of right and the honour of your country. I shall still be more with you while absent than when present."

From *Italy* we learn, that the line of electric telegraph connecting Rome with the rest of Europe, by the way of Bologna, is now completed, and nothing interferes to prevent Pio Nono from entering into confidential conversation with either of the Emperors of France, Austria, or Russia, except the erection of the intermediate stations, which are actively proceeding so as to enable the government and the public to make use of the line at the beginning of next month. The commercial panic is progressing here, and all sorts of securities and industrial shares are at the lowest ebb.

The bases of the *New Spanish Constitution* were on the 13th submitted to the Cortes. M. Olozaga announced that he should propose that the Senate should be elected, and not nominated. The Minister of the Interior said that he should request the Cortes to take into consideration, after the discussion of the question on national sovereignty, the clauses relative to the power given to the King to sanction and promulgate the law. The loan of 40,000,000 reals is being realised slowly. It will enable the government to carry on affairs during several months. The Minister of Finance has sent out a circular ordering public functionaries to adopt all legal measures to get in the taxes and arrears of taxes, and even, if necessary, to employ the armed force.

It appears by the *Berlin* papers that the Sardinian alliance with the Western Powers is discussed by the Prussian semi-official press in a spirit of great bitterness. It is felt that the active participation of a secondary European state in the war is making Prussian neutrality impossible. A new note has been sent to Vienna, protesting against the course taken by Austria and the Allies.

The Second Prussian Chamber on the 17th, adopted a very important resolution, namely, to call on the government to prepare as promptly as possible a bill for the suppression of the privilege of exemption from the land tax, which certain property of nobles still enjoys. This resolution was adopted by a large majority, in spite of the opposition of the ultra-conservative party.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 20th instant, says:—"Prince Gortschakoff had yesterday a very long conference with Count Buol, at the Foreign Office, in which he communicated to him the contents of a fresh despatch just received from St. Petersburg, which has made a great sensation in the diplomatic circles of this city, as I learn on good authority it contains the confirmation of the first instructions to the Prince to enter at once into negotiations, as the Emperor accepts the interpretation of the four points as laid down by the conference."

The greatest confidence and harmony exist between the Allies, and the attempts of Prince Gortschakoff to sow discord amongst them have proved a signal failure, as well as his attempts to gain a delay in the united decision of the Allies, which would only prove the more dangerous, since it is now known that the severe weather set in in the Crimea might otherwise prove a very dangerous ally to the Russians.

Sardinia has joined the alliance of the Western Powers. This important step is taken in virtue of the fifth article of the convention between Her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, signed at London on the 10th of April 1854. The fifth article runs as follows:—"Their Majesties the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the Emperor of the French will readily admit into their alliance, in order to cooperate for the proposed object, such of the other Powers of Europe as may be desirous of becoming parties to it." The Sardinian government has added its signature to this protocol. At the same time, General Dabormida has resigned, and Count Cavour has accepted the office of minister for foreign affairs.

The King of Naples has celebrated the proclamation of the dogma of the immaculate conception in various ways. He has placed the army under the care of the Immaculate Conception; and he has organised festivals in honour of the Madonna. On one of these occasions, the streets and back slums of the city were cleaned, and all the place put on an air of decency; for the King intended to assist in a procession. Arbitrary arrests continue to be made as usual. People's minds are so accustomed to such incidents, that they are regarded almost as a necessary part of the routine of government. A short time since a gentleman of wealth, influence, and respectability was arrested and taken to the Prefecture, where he was detained five days and nights, and then dismissed, without the slightest reason being given for his detention, or the slightest excuse offered.

Accounts from Stockholm, of the 23rd inst., state that orders have been given for placing the entire Swedish army upon a war-footing. This measure is to be executed with the greatest promptitude, as it is required to have the troops ready to march.

New York papers have been received to the 10th inst. It appears that the money market has improved materially since the beginning of the year, and nearly all the state stocks are selling higher with the interest off than they were before the 1st of January with the interest on.—From the annual report of the treasurer of the state of Texas, we learn that the amount of cash and United States bonds on hand and received on account of the general fund, the past year, is four millions and a quarter of dollars, 300,000 dollars having been expended for ordinary appropriations, and 170,000 dollars towards the debt of the late republic. Two millions of the United States bonds have been transferred to the school fund of the state. This great and munificent act is a striking illustration of the determination of the people of the United States, wherever they go, to establish and maintain popular education as the corner-stone of their entire social and political system.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE events of the war continue still to exert an unfavourable influence on literature, and we have few important books to introduce in our list of new publications.

Setting aside mere pamphlets or new editions, the prominent works of the month have been two octavo volumes of a *History of Political Literature from the Earliest Times*, a compilation from printed sources by Mr. Robert Blakey; the first volume of a *History of the City of Dublin*, by Mr. J. T. Gilbert; three octavo volumes devoted to the *Origin and Progress of the Mechanical Inventions of James Watt*, drawn from the private correspondence of himself and his friends, by Mr. James Patrick Muirhead; a treatise on *Food and its Adulterations*, by Dr. Hassall; the second volume of Mr. M'Intosh's very complete and richly illustrated *Book of the Garden*; the third and last volume of Mr. Peter Cunningham's edition of *Johnson's Lives of the Poets*; the second volume of Mr. Johnston's *Chemistry of Common Life*; a series of popular lectures on English history, from the Anglo-Saxon times to our own, entitled *Landmarks of the History of England*, by the Rev. James White; a volume descriptive of Elba, and of Napoleon's government there, partly translated and partly original; a descriptive account of the *Druses of Lebanon*, by Mr. George Washington Chasseaud; a volume of *Historical Memorials of Canterbury*, consisting partly of republished Quarterly articles and partly of original lectures, by the Rev. Arthur Penrhyn Stanley; a brief narrative of a Month in the Camp before Sebastopol; an excellent translation, in two octavo volumes, of new Travels in the Chinese Empire by the Abbé Hue; an account, from apparently authentic sources, of the Chinese Rebel Chief,

by the Rev. Theodore Hamberg; a collection, taken from his writings in a weekly literary review, of *Literary Papers by the late Professor Forbes*; a volume of *Memoirs of Anne Duchess of Brittany, twice Queen of France*, by Miss Costello; several additions (reprints) to the libraries of Mr. Bohn, one of which, a well known *Handbook of Proverbs*, has had large and curious additions made to it by Mr. Bohn himself; a useful little treatise on the *Art of Travel*, by Mr. Francis Galton, the object of which is to give an easy and popular description of the shifts and contrivances available in wild countries; a volume, by Mr. Peter Bayne, on the *Christian Life, Social and Individual*, chiefly in reply to Mr. Carlyle's views and philosophy; a short treatise, by Doctor Wilson, on the *Pathology of Drunkenness*; a translation from the French, the first that has been made, by the Rev. F. B. Wells, of Thierry's *Essay on The Formation and Progress of the Tiers Etat or Third Estate in France*; the first and second volumes of *Memoirs of the Life and Writings of James Montgomery*, written by Mr. John Holland, with the assistance of the Rev. James Everett; *A Life of William Etty, R.A.*, by Mr. Alexander Gilchrist; the first volume, comprising the period from 1745 to 1770, of a *History of England during the Reign of George the Third*, by Mr. Massey, M.P.; a descriptive treatise on Cornwall, its Mines and Miners, on a similar plan to a former Treatise, by the same writer, on "Our Coal and Coal Pits;" *A Ramble through Normandy*, by Mr. Musgrave; and the following tales and novels—*The Warden*, by Mr. Trollope; *Heliandi, or Adventures in the Sun*; *The Curse of Gold*; *The Step-Son*, by Mr. Dyer; *A Dozen Pairs of Wedding Gloves*; and *Guen, or the Cousins*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 16th inst., £12,162,495.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz. £3 17 9 | Silver bars, stan. per oz. 5 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
 Do., dust, " 3 16 0 | Mexican dollars, " 5 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS
TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris 0·38 prem. | New York 1·58 disc.
Hamburg 0·18 prem. |

Bank Rate of Discount, 5 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three per Cent. Reduced	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	91	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
New Three per Cents	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$
Exchequer Bills, June	7s. p.	4s. p.	4·7 p.
India Bonds	14s p.	11s. p.	12 p.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100 all	Brighton & S. Coast	108	106 $\frac{1}{2}$	106 $\frac{1}{2}$	708,062
	Blackwall	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	72,577
100 all	Calderonian	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	767,901
100 all	Edinb. and Glasgow	58	55	53·5	910,330
	Eastern Counties ..	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,003,156
	Gt. Su. & Wn. (Irel.)	91	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	91	307,721
	Great Northern	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	90	90	1,174,362
100	Great Western	70 $\frac{1}{2}$	66 $\frac{1}{2}$	66 $\frac{1}{2}$	993,135
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,757,305
100	London & N. Westn.	102 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	696,418
100	London & S. Westn.	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	83 $\frac{1}{2}$	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,350,175
100	Midland	71	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	430,514
100	South-East. & Dover	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.

RAILWAYS.					
Belgian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	East Belgian Junct.	1·1 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Brazilian 5 per cent., 97·9	Great Luxembourg	2 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Chilian 6 per cent., 100·2	Northern of France	33 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Danish 5 per cent. 104	Norwegian Trunk Pref. Sk $\frac{1}{2}$ 9 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 61·2	Paris and Orleans	4 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Dutch 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 92·4	Paris and Lyons	3 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Mexican 3 per cent., 21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Rouen	41 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Pernvian 3 per cent., 69·71	West Flanders	3 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Portuguese 4 per cent., 41·3	West of France	23 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Russian 5 per cent., 100·102	Rouen and Havre	22 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Spanish 3 per cent., 39					
Sardinian 5 per cent., 83·5					

MINES.

Linares	7·8	Quartz Rock	1·3
Nouveau Mondo	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	St. John Del Rey	29·31

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.

BANKS.					
Australian	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	Australasian	80 to 82		
Do. Freehold	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	Eng. Scott. and Aust. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.			
Colonial Gold	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	Ind. Aust. and China			
Port Philip	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	Lond. Chart. of Aust. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.			
South Australian	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	South Australian	39·41		
		Union of Australia ..	67·69		

RAILWAYS.

East Indian	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.	STEAM COMPANIES.
Do. Extension 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	"	Australasian Pacific .. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Indian Peninsula .. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	"	Australian Royal Mail
Madras	15·16 "	Eastern Steam Navig.

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural	36·8	North Brit. Australian ..	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Van Diemen's Land ..	12·13	Peel River Land ..	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
South Australian Land ..	35·36	Scottish Austr. Invest.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Dec. 23	72 4	33 8	27 4	46 0	47 10	46 11
Jan. 6	74 3	31 6	27 5	48 4	40 11	45 0
— 13	73 9	31 2	27 4	45 6	46 5	43 5
— 20	72 2	33 7	26 11	45 3	45 7	42 9

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	64 to 70	10 to 15	5 0	Hay.... per load
Malting Barley	34—35			3 0—5 15
Oats, best	28—30			Clover....
Straw	74—80			1 4—1 11
Wheat, White, "				Linenseed cake, per ton, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ os.
Flour—				Rape cake, ditto, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ os.; Bones, ditto, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ os.
Town made, per sck.	68—73			Hops—Kents, 200s. to 420s.
Country household	53—63			Sussex, 280s. to 300s. For 280s. to 320s.
American, per barrel	42—46			
Indian Corn, per qr. 45—47				

CATTLE—	s. d. s. d.		
Beasts, per st. 3	2 to 4		
Calves ..	4	0—5	2
Sheep ..	3	4—4	3
Pigs ..	3	4—5	2
Wool, per lb.—			
South Down.. 1	1	1—1	4
Kentish flocks 1	4	1—1	7
German Elect. 3	6	5—5	7
Australian .. 1	3	2—2	6
Cape..... 1	7	1—7	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Spanish	1	2—2	1

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 126 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Iron, Pigs, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ os.				
Rails, sl. 6s. Lead, English				
Pig, 23l. Steel, Swedish Keg,				
17l. Tin, English block,				
11l. Barren, 11l. Spelter,				
29l. 15s. Quicksilver, per lb.				
1s. 1d. to 2s.				

PROVISIONS.

BACON, per cwt.—Irish, 56s.	to 60s.	Foreign, 58s. to 60s.		
BEER—Mid. to prime, p. 8lb.,	3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.	Irish, 6lb.,	1s. 10d. to 1s. 12d.	
DOUGH—Mid. to prime, p. 8lb.,	3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.	Irish, 6lb.,	1s. 10d. to 1s. 12d.	
EGGS—Mid. to prime, p. 8lb.,	3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.	Irish, 6lb.,	1s. 10d. to 1s. 12d.	
HAM—York., 65s. to 82s.				
IRISH—55s. to 70s.				
MUTTON—Mid. to prime, p. 8lb.,	3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.	Irish, 6lb.,	1s. 10d. to 1s. 12d.	
POTATOES, per ton, 110s. to	170s.			
PORK, per 8lb., 2s. 4d. to	5s. 6d.			
POTATOES, per ton, 110s. to	170s.			
VEAL, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.				

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1854.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
To Nov. 30	74,581	37,281	184,823	3039	299,824
Dec.	7,173	—	3,725	200	11,098
Total	81,754	37,281	188,558	3239	310,922

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO THE AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

From	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
London..	£40 to £65	£26 to £30	£15 to £22	£2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 0
Liverpool	40 — 50	20 — 26	10 — 14	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 0
The Clyde	30 — 45	20 — 25	12 — 14	2 5 — 3 15
Belfast ..	40 — 50	20 — 26	11 — 14	2 5 — 3 15

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 27TH JANUARY TO THE 25TH FEBRUARY.

[PRICE 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

In the HOUSE of LORDS, on Monday, January 29th, Earl GREY moved a resolution to the effect that the *Administration of the Army* ought to be concentrated under the control of a single well-organised department. The chief proposition was that of the appointment of a board analogous to the Board of Admiralty, for the purpose of administering all the business connected with the military service in all its branches. He would have the Commander-in-Chief a member of the board *ex officio*, but without having the chief authority. To this board he would entrust the patronage of the army.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE explained the principles on which, in his opinion, the consolidation of the war departments should be effected. Referring to the condition of the army in the Crimea, he attributed the privations it had undergone principally to the want of education both in officers and men, and especially as regarded what were called camp services. He proceeded to comment at some length upon the numerous deficiencies in the military resources of the country, occasioned by a long peace and a too strict economy. Three officers, he stated, had been despatched to Paris to enquire into the working of the French military system, and Lord Raglan had been requested to make similar inquiries in the French camp. Great advantage was to be anticipated from the result of these investigations. Reverting to the immediate subject before their lordships, he detailed the reasons which led him to believe that a board would be a most cumbersome and inefficient machine for the performance of the duties that fell upon the various departments of the war administration, and was calculated to result in serious embarrassments, and a dangerous division of responsibilities.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH objected to the motion as being ill-timed at the present crisis. Earl Grey withdrew the motion.

On Thursday, February 1st, the Earl of ABERDEEN announced the *Resignation of the Government*, in consequence of the vote in another place, on Monday night. Although he believed the vote to be unconstitutional it was not his desire, nor that of his colleagues, to avoid inquiry into their conduct. He believed that the Duke of Newcastle had in particular suffered great injustice. He (the Earl of Aberdeen) was not at all surprised at the feeling throughout the country. It was natural that the public, who, without reasoning acutely, no doubt felt very strongly, should look somewhere for the responsibility of conducting the war; and that, finding the commanders at fault, they should turn their censure upon the government. He thought the accounts from the Crimea had been grossly exaggerated. At any rate the condition of our troops was now improving. He then referred to the great strength of the French army, as appeared from the Emperor's address to the legislative body of France. We had recently, too, concluded a treaty with Sardinia, by which 15,000 Piedmontese troops were placed at our disposal. There was also our treaty with Austria, and our engagements with that State had arrived at a most important point. Here, then (said the noble earl), was the alternative of a peace which would secure all the objects for which we are contending, or ensure the assistance of that great military power whose army is now raised to the amount of 500,000 men. Under such circumstances, how was it possible to entertain apprehensions from those casualties to which all armies are liable? Having described our

military prospects Lord Aberdeen briefly adverted to our domestic position, and to that general prosperity which he ascribed to wise financial measures. He also referred to the condition of the navy, against which, he said, nothing had been or could be alleged. He trusted that, whatever the future government might be, they would carry on this war with vigour, with effect, and with a view only to a speedy termination, and a safe and honourable peace. He trusted they would not be diverted by a wild and imaginary vigour, or animated by merely vindictive feelings, but would listen to the dictates of humanity and of true policy, and would lose no time in realising the advantages of peace.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE found it necessary to make some explanations in consequence of statements in the other house by Lord John Russell. The noble lord had placed the justification of the course he had taken almost exclusively upon his (the duke's) acceptance of and subsequent continuance in the secretaryship of the war department. Lord John had said, in a letter to Lord Aberdeen, that when the two secretarieship of state were divided, he yielded to his (the Duke of Newcastle's) strong wish to occupy the war department, thereby undoubtedly implying that he had been opposed to that arrangement, and had been overruled. This was not the case. At the cabinet council in which it was decided that the two offices of secretary of state for the colonies and secretary of state for war should be divided, he had said, "So far as I am personally concerned, I am perfectly ready to retain either or neither." That was the "strong wish" which has been spoken of by the noble lord. So far as regarded Lord Palmerston, he never for a moment understood that it was the wish of Lord J. Russell for him to occupy the war department. He had heard something of Earl Grey being proposed by the noble lord, but had never contemplated standing in his way. Again he wished distinctly to deny having expressed a "strong wish" to continue in the war department. On the contrary, indeed, it was only when he saw no other member of the cabinet stand forward to take the seals of his office, that he determined on not shrinking from a post of difficulty and danger. Many of his private friends knew this, and those noble lords opposite who generously cheered the assertion were among them. He hoped, therefore, he had sufficiently explained to their lordships the conduct which had been characterised by some as arrogance, and by the noble lord, to whom he had referred, in the more patronising phrase of "commendable ambition." The noble lord's expressions of kindness, while endeavouring to remove him from his position, were only so much of what the Americans designate "soft sawder;" and he would therefore refrain from dwelling on the letter of the noble lord's to his noble friend late at the head of the government, on the 18th of November, in which he said, "It was my intention, in writing the letter, to avoid throwing any blame upon the Duke of Newcastle; indeed, I think he deserves very great credit for the exertions he has made." While the noble lord was quoting letters that had passed on the subject, it was somewhat strange that he should have forgotten to quote the letter of Lord Aberdeen on the 21st of November, in answer to that which he had received. The very beginning was in these words: "I have shown your letter to the Duke of Newcastle, and also to Sidney

Herbert. They both—as might have been expected—strongly urged me to adopt any such arrangement, with respect to their offices, as might be most conducive to the public service." He had shown their lordships that he did not insist upon holding the seals of the war department; and when his noble friend (Lord Aberdeen) placed Lord J. Russell's letter in his hands, his immediate remark was, "Don't give Lord John any pretext for quitting this government. On no account resist his wish to remove me from my office. Do with me whatever is best for the public service. In that way you will gratify me most; in that way you will be serving the Queen best." The next instance in which he was obliged to quote from the speech of the noble lord was where he used these words: "I then went on to give some instances of errors which had been committed." Now the impression produced upon the public mind was, of course, that these errors were of a grave character, that upon them had hinged the safety of our troops in the Crimea, and perhaps all the consequences that have been lately seen. Lord John Russell did not read the complaints which he had made of these errors, and therefore, with their lordships' permission, he would read them himself. They were contained in a letter to the noble lord dated the 28th of November, in which he stated that he had written to him (the Duke of Newcastle) early in October, on the subject of transferring the 97th Regiment then at the Piraeus to the Crimea, and that the answer had been that he (the Duke of Newcastle) had wished to do so, and had also wished to send between 2,000 and 3,000 men, the drafts of various regiments to the Crimea. The noble lord had gone on in this letter to ascribe the failure of his (the Duke of Newcastle's) intentions, to his inability to contend with obstacles put in his way by other departments. Now this matter had been explained to the noble lord in writing, and could be soon explained to their lordships. The 97th regiment could only have been removed from the Piraeus in the teeth of a representation by the foreign minister that no troops could be spared thence at such a time. The regiment was withdrawn and sent to the Crimea at the earliest moment tranquillity was sufficiently restored to the Piraeus. The noble duke proceeded to explain why other drafts had not been sent; and added that though Lord John Russell's statement that "errors" had been laid before him (the Duke of Newcastle) was true, it was also true that those errors had been explained. How far they were explained to the satisfaction, at that time, of the noble lord, might appear from a passage in his own letter, closing the correspondence on the subject. The noble lord said:—"You have done all that can be done; and I am sanguine of success." The later proposal of Lord John Russell that he (the Duke of Newcastle) should leave the cabinet, was not opposed by him or Lord Aberdeen, but had been placed before all their colleagues, and had been unanimously disapproved of. After the meeting of parliament on the 13th of December, and the cabinet council on the 16th, Lord J. Russell expressly declared he had changed his views, and that he had abandoned any wish that he had entertained for a change. The reason ascribed by the noble lord for doing so was that he had consulted a noble friend, not in the cabinet, who had advised him to withdraw his proposal. The duke then proceeded to discuss the question of measures, and to justify the course that had been pursued in his department. He was prepared to defend the conduct of all involved with him in the responsibility of governing the country in time of war—Lord John Russell included. Whatever had been the result of the division in the House of Commons, it had been his determination to resign office in deference to the expression of public opinion upon his management of the war. Whoever might succeed him, he would endeavour to make his path easy. If his past experience were of the slightest value, his successor might claim it, and have it, whether his acts were taken as an example or a warning. It was his earnest prayer that whoever might succeed to the conduct of affairs would merit and obtain that success and that approbation which it had been his earnest desire but not his good fortune, to secure.—The Earl of DERBY, after some sarcastic remarks on the picture of the interior of the cabinet as

painted by the Duke of Newcastle, made the following statement:—On the resignation of the noble earl (Aberdeen), her Majesty did me the honour of commanding my attendance yesterday (Wednesday) morning at half-past 11 o'clock. I had a long audience with her Majesty, in which I hardly need say that I met with the most condescending kindness. I do not think it would be for the public advantage that I should at this time avail myself, even if I had the permission of her Majesty, of the opportunity of stating all that passed on that occasion. It might lead to the serious inconvenience of the public service, if, while negotiations were going on, previous to the formation of a government, such statements were to be made. It was the duty of every public man to be prepared at the proper time to give an explanation of the motives and reasons which had led to his acceptance or refusal of office. Until a government might be formed it would not, however, be right for him (the Earl of Derby) to say more than that he was not able to offer her Majesty the assurance of being able satisfactorily to conduct the affairs of the government. He concurred entirely with the noble earl opposite, that whatever government may be formed, the great interests of this country require at the present moment a strong government. And whatever government may be entrusted by her Majesty to carry on the great war in which we are engaged, that man is undeserving of the character of a patriot and of an honest man who does not to the utmost extent of his power give to the government of the Queen a disinterested, and, as far as he can, a cordial support.—The house then adjourned.

On Monday, February 5, the Earl of ABERDEEN stated that Lord Palmerston had been charged by the Queen with the *Formation of a Ministry*, and moved the adjournment of the house, which accordingly took place.

On Thursday, February 8, Lord LYNDHURST intimated that he should not press his motion concerning the conduct of the war.

Earl GRANVILLE, as president of the council, moved the *Adjournment of the House* for a week.—The Earl of DERBY then explained the part which he had taken during the ministerial interregnum. Though he might have felt justified, when honoured by her Majesty with her commands, in attempting to form an administration out of the great conservative party, in which he proposed to include Lord Ellenborough and Sir E. Lytton, he had come to the conclusion that out of the unassisted strength of that party he could not have brought together so strong a government as the exigencies of the country demanded. He had, therefore, felt it to be his duty to apply to Lord Palmerston for assistance, and he had found, as was to be expected, that that noble lord could only aid him with the concurrence of his friends. After some delay, his invitation to Lord Palmerston and his colleagues was responded to by a refusal to co-operate in the formation of a government, and he had, therefore, informed her Majesty that his attempt had failed, and that it would be necessary to ascertain whether a stronger government could not be formed by some other ministerial combination. Though his conduct might have disappointed some of his more sanguine supporters, he was convinced that the great conservative party should not rashly or prematurely accept office at the present portentous crisis. He would only add that, while a deep responsibility would attach itself to any minister who should conclude a peace which should not guarantee the tranquillity and independence of Europe, a still deeper responsibility would rest on any minister who should prolong the war a single moment after those results had been obtained.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE also gave a narrative of what had taken place in the formation of a government, and explained the constitutional principles on which her Majesty had acted in first seeking the services of Lord Derby, and next of Lord John Russell. When Lord Palmerston was entrusted with the task of forming a government, he was consulted, and at once advised Lord Palmerston to persevere in his attempt. He did so because he felt that the question was not whether we should have Lord Palmerston's government, but whether we should have a government at all. Having given this advice, he could not refuse, though he consented with great reluctance to remain a member of the government. That

government now relied, not only upon their own friends, but upon the patriotism of every member in both houses. He hoped they all would remember that representative institutions were now passing through their ordeal, and he hoped parliament would give no occasion to foreign countries to say that in a state of war despotism had more advantages than free institutions.—

The Earl of Malmesbury adverted to the speech of Earl Grey on military reform a few nights ago, and gave his opinion that if the army was to be governed on the same plan as the navy, there would soon be as much jobbing at the Horse Guards as there was now at the Admiralty. He defended the composition of the army from the charge of its officers being for the most part connected with the aristocracy, and stated that of one hundred officers in the Grenadier Guards eighteen only were connected with the peerage. In the regiments of the line and cavalry the proportion was still less. He hoped, therefore, the new war-minister would not be led away by these flatters to make rash innovations.—Lord PANMURE said that he was quite aware that reforms were wanted in the army, but he was not then prepared to state either the extent to which he would carry them, or the time when he would introduce them. One qualification, at least, he could pledge himself he would bring to the administration—that was, purity of intention. None should be employed whom he did not believe to be qualified, and in dismissing incompetent persons he would show that he could sacrifice his own feelings to his country's good. He entered upon his office with the qualification of some years' experience in the War-office, and of having served twelve years in regimental service. From his own experience he could state that whatever defects might exist elsewhere, he believed the regimental system was as near perfection as possible. He concluded by stating that if he felt himself unequal to the task he had undertaken he would not hesitate to give it up.—The Earl of RODEN recommended a patriotic support to the new government as far as possible, and wished Lord Panmure every success in the task he had so gallantly undertaken. He urged upon the government the necessity of appointing a day of national prayer for the success of our army. The house adjourned till Friday the 16th instant.

On Friday, February 16, Lord PANMURE explained some of the *Reforms which were Contemplated in the War Department*, and introduced a bill to allow the enlistment of men of a more extended age, and for shorter periods than was at present usual. Lord Panmure, after giving some further details of what he proposed to effect, said: In order to obtain a class of men more capable of enduring the fatigues and hardships of the service than boys of eighteen, whom they were in the habit of enlisting, he proposed to enlist in the army for any period within ten years—that is to say, from one, two, three, or any number of years within the ten years which he might desire. These men should, however, not be under twenty-four nor above thirty-two years of age. As soon as the government could obtain a sufficiency of transports, it was their intention to establish a communication every week or ten days between Scutari and England. Those transports would be then enabled every week or ten days to convey to this country perhaps 500 sick, who would be much sooner restored to health and to the service of the army in England, than they could hope to be while they remained in the place which they then were. He had been informed by a medical gentleman and others, that such was the state of the atmosphere in Scutari, that wounds scarcely ever healed properly there, and that the fevers which generally supervened were scarcely ever cured. It, therefore, appeared absolutely necessary at once to bring those men home, where they could be attended to with much greater advantage than at Scutari or the other hospitals in the East. In reply to a remark made by Lord Ellenborough respecting the appointment of General Simpson to a high command in the Crimea, Lord Panmure said that neither that general's health nor age precluded him from filling the appointment. Sir John Burgoyne had been recalled to fill his old post of Inspector of Fortifications, his duties before Sebastopol having devolved upon Major-General Harry Jones.

In reply to a question from Lord Campbell, the Lord CHANCELLOR observed that the *Thanks of that House had not been given personally to the Earl of Cardigan*, merely because no precedent could be found for such a proceeding.—Lord CAMPBELL regretted that, if no precedent existed before, one had not been made for the special occasion.

On Tuesday, February 20th, Lord PANMURE moved the second reading of the *Army Service Act Amendment Bill*. The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH complained of the course taken by the noble lord in merely moving a measure of such importance without a detailed statement of the condition of the army. He was not disposed to oppose the measure under existing circumstances, but he could not help thinking that the period for which this addition to our military force was enlisted should be limited to three years. The noble lord then proceeded in a somewhat discursive speech to comment on the vices inherent in our military system, and the mistakes which had been committed in the conduct of the war. He was dissatisfied with the way in which the ranks of the militia were filled up, and, instead of the counties, would make the poor law unions responsible for the proper quota to be furnished to that force, fining them if they failed to make it up. With respect to the conduct of the war, the principle on which the war department seemed to have acted was that of sending out to the seat of war every available man, taking no care to provide for its efficiency by maintaining sufficient reserves. The only point which he looked upon with any satisfaction was the treaty with Piedmont, a country which he rejoiced to see assuming a new position in Europe. On the other hand, the way in which the proper carrying on the war in Asia had been neglected by the government was deplorable. By a little management Persia might have been made an useful ally, and an attempt at least should have been made to employ a portion of our available Indian strength in that quarter, which, combined with Persia, and added to the force which Schamyl could bring into the field, would have proved irresistible.—The Earl of HARROWBY thought that a great mistake had been made in not calling the oppressed nationalities of Europe to our aid in our present struggle with Russia.—Lord PANMURE had not expected to be led into a debate on the bill, but had no objection to insert into it the limitation proposed by Lord Ellenborough, especially as he fervently hoped the state of things which required an enactment of this nature would not continue so long as three years from the present time. With regard to recruiting, the attention of the government had been seriously directed to the subject, and there was no question that means must be found, if not gentle, then by compulsion, to fill up the ranks of the service, so that the war might be carried on with vigour. The noble lord then replied to some other points touched on by Lord Ellenborough, and concluded by moving the second reading of the bill, with the insertion of the limitation proposed.—Lord MALMESBURY complained that the militia regiments had been completely disorganized by the sergeants of the line who had been sent to enlist militiamen for their regiments. In consequence of this system, as well as of the violation of the original understanding on which the force had been raised, an impression now prevailed that the militia as a body had not been fairly treated.—Lord GREY quite agreed with Lord Malmesbury in thinking that the departure from the original understanding had had a very prejudicial effect on the militia. Instead of enticing away men from the militia into the line, the proper way was to increase the army in a legitimate manner, by holding out sufficient inducement to men to enter at once into the regular service. With regard to what he could not help calling the wild and extravagant suggestions of Lord Ellenborough with regard to a campaign in Asia, he was glad to find Lord Panmure gave them no countenance. With regard to Poland, too, and her nationality, he trusted that the present war would not be diverted from its original object into a scheme for the restoration of that kingdom. No man felt more for the fate of Poland; but the Poles, by their incurable dissensions and divisions, had ruined their country.—After some further discussion, in which Lords Harrowby, Fitzwilliam, Granville, Colchester,

and Eglintoun took part, Lord PANMURE replied.—The bill was then read a second time, and, the standing orders having been suspended, it was passed through all its stages, a clause limiting the period of service to three years having been inserted on the third reading.

In the House of COMMONS on Monday, January 29th the adjourned debate on Mr. Roebeck's motion for a committee of inquiry into the *State of the Army in the Crimea* was resumed by Mr. A. STAFFORD, who entered into the details of what he himself had seen at Scutari, Balaklava, and the camp before Sebastopol. Mr. Stafford expressed his approval of the choice of Smyrna as a site for a new hospital; as the position of the hospital at Scutari, and the atmosphere at Constantinople, are unfavourable to the healing of wounds. Abydos was well chosen as a spot for a hospital; and if the stores were ready it would not turn out a failure. But when he was there, there were four hundred soldiers, and only two bottles of port-wine in store. He described the bad state of the hospital at Scutari; men lying on mattresses upon a floor of unglazed porous tiles, stained with feculent matter, which had engendered a noxious atmosphere, so that whoever entered caught the prevailing diseases. It had been greatly improved, but it was still and always will be unhealthy. The doctors were not entirely to be blamed; for there had been a want of proper instructions from home. As another illustration, he took the case of "convalescents" returning to the Crimea. Out of three hundred few had knapsacks. Inquiring of one soldier where his shoes were, he was told they were in his knapsack, lying with others in a ship hundred yards off: Mr. Stafford went to the ship, but he could only obtain two knapsacks: the fact was the whole of these knapsacks had remained on board ever since the troops had landed in the Crimea, and they had made four voyages to and fro between the Crimea and Scutari; in this case they were under the cargo, and two were all that he could obtain. He described the hospital at Balaklava,—now greatly improved—as uncleanly, unventilated, without a sheet, a mattress, or a single medical comfort. There were fourteen men in one room, and nine in another, lying on the bare boards; while in the passage between the two were bedsteads that could have been put up in two or three minutes. He found one of the convalescents sitting in the middle of the street, ready to drop with fatigue and hunger, and nobody to take him to the hospital—next morning he died. Another case was that of a man who could take no food but hospital sago: he was allowed a pint a day; he wished to have it three times a day, instead of other food; he was willing even to buy it; but he was refused the privilege. Mr. Stafford wished to take him back to Scutari, but the medical officer said he had not been ill long enough. Riding out one morning towards the camp, he passed a man lying down by the roadside in the last stage of diarrhoea; as he passed, he heard the man say, not addressing any one in particular, "Will anybody take me away or kill me?" On this he dismounted and asked the man how he came there? "They have been moving me down from the camp," he said, "to put me on board ship; but they have left me here, and I don't know what they are going to do with me; but I wish they would either kill me or take me away." There were four or five others close by in even a worse condition, inasmuch as they could not speak, while this man could; and on turning towards the camp, he saw coming towards him a long procession of our wounded soldiers, being brought down from the camp on French mules and in French ambulances. He would do the French soldiers the justice of saying that no countrymen could have behaved with greater kindness to these poor fellows. The sick on board the Avon had been served with soup made of whole pease, which, instead of thickening, sank to the bottom, while the greasy pork floated at the top. The Candia went to Balaklava to bring down sick, and took some medical comforts with her; but Captain Field could not obtain permission to leave them from the authorities, until he said he would deliver them to any officer who would give him a receipt for them. When the sick were put on board, had it not been for the urgent representations of Captain Field, there would have been

no medical provision at all. These sick men had nothing to cover them but filthy blankets, swarming with vermin. At the instance of Mr. Stafford, the doctor was induced to waive routine and to issue fresh blankets; which, the orderlies being ill, Mr. Stafford and his servant served out to the men. He contrasted the state of the French hospitals with ours, from personal inspection; describing the French as clean, well-ventilated and well supplied with every convenience; so that "it seemed as if the French had been there for ten years and that the English came only the day before." Amidst the gloomy picture which he drew Mr. Stafford congratulated Mr. Herbert on the success of one measure—the sending out of the female nurses last autumn. Success more complete had never attended human effort than that which had resulted from this excellent measure. They could scarcely realise, without personally seeing it, the heartfelt gratitude of the soldiers to these noble ladies, or the amount of misery they had relieved, or the degree of comfort—he might say of joy—they had diffused; and it was impossible to do justice, not only to the kindness of heart, but to the clever judgment, ready intelligence, and experience displayed by the distinguished lady to whom this difficult mission has been intrusted. If Scutari was not altogether as we could wish it to be, it was because of the inadequate powers confided to Miss Nightingale; and if the Government did not stand by her and her devoted band, and repel unfounded and ungenerous attacks made upon them—if it did not consult their wishes and yield to their superior judgment in many respects—it would deserve the execration of the public. He told how happy the news of the Queen's letter had made the wounded in the hospital at Scutari. He saw one poor fellow proposing to drink the Queen's health with a preparation of bark and quinine, which he was ordered to take as a medicine; and when Mr. Stafford remarked the draught was a bitter one for such a toast, the man smilingly replied—"Yes, and but for these words I could not get it down." This anecdote was told to his fellow sufferers, and this was the way in which they sweetened their bitter draughts. He had no notion of the noble qualities possessed by these brave men until he lived and laboured among them. Fervent exclamations of humble piety and sincere penitence were heard escaping from their dying lips. Unceasing pain and approaching death failed to unman those gallant spirits; and it was only when charging him with their last messages to those near and dear to them that their voices were noticed to falter. Once, indeed, a brave fellow, who bore the highest character in his regiment, on his death-bed uttered to him these words—"Had I been better treated I might have gone back to my duty in the field, and there I should have been ready to meet the soldiers of the enemy: but England has not cared for me." These words caused to Mr. Stafford's mind the deepest pain, but he felt convinced that England did care for her soldiers; indeed, from what he had seen of the feeling of this country since his return, he believed that there was comparatively nothing else for which the people of England now cared as much as for the welfare of those who fought their battles. He concluded by urging the house to appoint the committee, as the only means of saving our army.—Mr. B. OSBORNE said he had remarked with pleasure that among the many criticisms on the conduct of the war, none had been directed against the department to which he was attached, the Admiralty. He commented upon the injustice of sacrificing a minister for the faults of a system, and contended the military organisation of the country was altogether rotten.—Mr. HENLEY said the question was not whither the system was bad, but whether the present ministers had made the best of it.—Mr. BERESFORD vindicated the military character of Lord Raglan, and supported the motion, being desirous of full inquiry.—Mr. Rice and Sir F. Baring opposed the motion; Mr. Miles and Mr. Bentinck supported it.—Sir E. BULWER LYTTON contended that the justification of the motion was to be found in the extremity of the case. Lord J. Russell had left his colleagues rather than resist it, notwithstanding the pain which such an abandonment must have given to so gallant a spirit. "Shall this house (he said,) be more com-

plaisant than the noble lord, although it has not the countervailing scruples which must have weighed upon a cabinet minister, the late organ and leader of the government in these walls, now standing alone in his abandonment of office? If we could not feel for the public calamities, we must still be roused by our own private anxiety and sorrow. I, myself, have two near relations in this war; many of us have near relations among the sufferers. It is our boast, as a portion of the gentlemen of England, that, wherever danger is to be braved or honour is to be won, there some of our kindred blood is flowing or may flow; and after the miseries so simply told by the member for Northamptonshire, shall we be deprived of a remedy for the evils you admit, of an inquiry into the abuses you deplore, because of some paltry technical objections to the words of the only motion that promises relief—because it is a vote for inquiry, when it ought to be a vote of censure? Take it, then, as a vote of censure, and let it so stand as a precedent to other times, if other times should be as grievously affected under a similar administration." Sir E. B. Lytton proceeded to state that the expedition to the Crimea had been undertaken in utter ignorance of the country they were to invade, the forces they were to encounter, and the supplies which they might expect; and it was this ignorance, and not the petty collateral causes which the Secretary-at-War had cited, to which the disasters were to be attributed. "This ignorance (he said) is the more inexcusable because you disdain the available sources of information. This is the fundamental cause of our disaster, and not the comparatively petty and collateral causes to which the Secretary-at-War would assign them. The ignorance, indeed, on a former occasion, the government confessed; and when we were convened on the 12th of December we heard that synod of veteran statesmen—those *analecta majora* of the wisdom and genius of parliament—actually make their ignorance the excuse for their incapacity. We might accept that excuse for the sake of its candour; but the government have asked more, for, as I will undertake to show, they have asked us to acquit them of disasters when they took no pains to acquire the information that was necessary for success. It has, indeed, been said, that the public were no wiser than the government—that the public underrated the power of Russia, and demanded the premature siege of Sebastopol. If this were true, what then? Why do we choose ministers—why do we give them salaries, patronage, honours—if it is not to have some men wiser than the public, at least in all that relates to the offices they hold? It may be a noble fault in a people to disregard the strength of an enemy when a cause is just. Who does not love and admire this English people more than when they rose as one man to cry 'No matter what the cost or hazard—let us defend the weak against the strong?' But if to underrate the power of an enemy was almost a merit in the people, it was a grave dereliction of duty in a Minister-of-War. But I deny that the public, fairly considered, were not wiser than the government, and there is scarcely a point which you have covered with a blunder on which some one or other of the public did not try to prepare and warn you." The people, he continued, looked to triumphs on the sea rather than on the land; but when nearly the whole Black Sea lay defenceless before them, the fleet contented themselves with an ineffectual bombardment of Odessa, for which—in consequence, he was sure, of private instructions—the admiral afterwards made an apology. It was said that the destruction of Odessa would have been an act of inhumanity. Why, Odessa was the feeder of Sebastopol, and to spare it was the grossest inhumanity to our soldiers. The whole campaign was mismanaged, [Sir E. B. Lytton read several extracts from private letters to show that such was the case.] Of the whole year, the government had chosen the two unhealthiest months to encamp the army at Varna; and they had chosen the winter as the time to attack the Gibraltar of the East. He did not blame the government because the army had been exposed to wind, and rain, and mud, but he did blame them for not taking those precautions against the Crimean winter which any traveller could have told them were necessary. He traced many evils to the fact of a coalition govern-

ment, in which everybody's principles agreed with nobody's opinions. It was said that Lord Palmerston was likely to be advanced in position as the result of these disputes. He regarded that noble lord with feelings of the greatest admiration; and he believed his greatest danger would arise from the armed neutrality of his unsuccessful advocate and friend, the noble member for London. "That noble lord (said Sir B. Lytton), on Friday last, attempted, not triumphantly, to vindicate the whigs from the charge of being an exclusive party that required all power for itself; and he found a solitary instance for the refutation of that charge in the magnanimity with which the whigs had consented to that division of power which his desertion now recons and condemns. But in plain words his vindication only amounts to this, that where the whigs could not get all the power they reluctantly consented to accept half. Now, gentlemen opposite will, perhaps, pardon me if I say, that I think the secret of whig exclusiveness and whig ascendancy has been mainly this,—you, the large body of independent liberal politicians, the advocates for progress, have supposed, from the memory of former contests now ended, that while England is advancing, a large section of your countrymen, with no visible interest in existing abuses, is for standing still; and thus you have given, not to yourselves, not to the creed and leaders of the vast popular party, but to a small hereditary combination of great families,—a fictitious monopoly of liberal policy—a genuine monopoly of lethargic government. It is my firm belief that any administration, formed from either side of the house, should we be so unfortunate as to lose the present, would be as fully alive to the necessity of popular measures, of steady progress, of sympathy with the free and enlightened people they might aspire to govern, as any of those great men who are democrats in opposition and oligarchs in office. But to me individually and to the public it is a matter of comparative indifference from what section of men a government at this moment shall be formed, so long as it manfully represents the great cause to which the honour and safety of England are committed, and carries into practical execution the spirit that animates the humblest tradesman, the poorest artisan who has sent his scanty earnings to the relief of our suffering army. It has been said, as the crowning excuse for the government, that all our preceding wars have begun with blunders. Were this an arena for historical disquisition, I should deny that fact; but grant it for the sake of argument. How were those blunders repaired and converted into triumphs? I know a case in point. Once in the last century there was a Duke of Newcastle, who presided over the conduct of a war, and was supported by a powerful league of aristocratic combinations. That war was, indeed, a series of blunders and disasters. In vain attempts were made to patch up that luckless ministry—in vain some drops of healthful blood were infused into its feeble and decrepit constitution—the people at last became aroused, indignant, irresistible. They applied one remedy; that remedy is now before ourselves. They dismissed their government and saved their army." [This speech was received with much cheering.] —Mr. GLADSTONE entered into explanations at variance with Lord John Russell's statement. The noble lord had not urged his remonstrances from November up to his resignation. In November there were no complaints against the conduct of the War-office; nay, in October the noble lord wrote to the Duke of Newcastle, stating his belief that he had done in his office all man could do. More than this, the Earl of Aberdeen, being doubtful of the intentions of the president of the council, asked him, on the 16th of December, whether he still adhered to his intention of pressing changes in the war department; and the noble lord stated in reply that on the advice of a friend he had abandoned the views he pressed in November. Therefore, up to Tuesday night, when the noble lord sent in his resignation, his colleagues did not know that he was dissatisfied, or that he meant to press his former views as to the re-organisation of the war department; and it might be thought that after losing the services and presence of the noble lord the government ought not to have met the house, or at least not to have met them without some reorganisation.

But he felt it was not for them either to attempt to make terms with the house by a reorganisation, or to shrink from the judgment of the house upon their past acts. Mr. Gladstone then adverted to the state of the army, and affirmed that the present English force exceeded 30,000 men. It could not be said therefore that the British army before Sebastopol was extinguished. He intimated that there were points in which the English military system would bear a favourable comparison with that of the French, though honourable members would see that this was not a matter for public discussion. Sir E. Lytton had condemned the government for not destroying Odessa. Why Odessa was an open town, with 100,000 inhabitants, and with an army of 300,000 men within easy reach. Would that have proved comfortable winter quarters for the British army? He admitted that the administration of the war departments at home was defective, but he did not admit that they were not much improved, or that they remained so defective as to call for censure. As a proof of the improvements that had been effected, he instanced the employment of the minié rifle, the reconstruction of our field artillery, and the securing of ground for training the army for camp service. But the censure was intended to be cast upon the Duke of Newcastle. If they thought that his noble friend had neglected the duties committed to him, they were much mistaken; and however they might vote to-night, he was quite sure that a twelvemonth hence, if the real state of the facts should then be known, there would be a reaction among the just and generous people of England. The complaints as to the state of the hospitals, and of the army before Sebastopol, had only become clamorous since the middle of December. What would the house have had his noble friend to do? Was he to recall Lord Raglan? Why, the house had just voted their unanimous thanks to that gallant commander! Was he, then, to recall the subordinates of Lord Raglan? Before doing that, his noble friend had called for a report from Lord Raglan as to his subordinates, and they had received a statement from Lord Raglan, giving hope that these abuses would be remedied. It was for the house to say whether they would censure the government for trusting to the representations of Lord Raglan. It was admitted that the appointment of this committee was improper and impracticable, and was avowedly supported by many members as a means of turning out the ministry. The country would not understand this. If the house voted a committee, the country would expect that that committee should be appointed, and if it was not, the character of the house itself would be damaged; and he reminded the house that there were other questions which must be immediately brought forward, on which the house would have ample opportunity to express its judgment as to the conduct of the government. If this motion were to be carried, he should ever rejoice that his last words as a member of Lord Aberdeen's government were an indignant protest against a measure useless to the army, unconstitutional in its nature, and fraught with danger to the honour and interests of the commons of England.

—Mr. DISRAELI said his first impression on seeing Mr. Roebuck sit down, after simply reading his motion, was, that, as a consummate rhetorician, he had done so as the most effective mode of supporting his motion. He might well indeed dispense with a speech in support of his motion, for that had been made for him by the noble lord who but a few hours before was the first minister of the crown in that house. It was said that this motion implied a vote of want of confidence. He would ask in what government did it imply a want of confidence? Was it in the government as it existed forty-eight hours ago, or was it in the government as it now existed? Why they had themselves admitted that they required reconstruction. Or was it a want of confidence in the government as it was to be? The House of Commons had often before voted confidence in a government whose principles they did not know, but now they were called upon to vote confidence in an administration with whose very persons they were unacquainted. He denied that this motion was directed exclusively against the Duke of Newcastle. His own colleagues had described him as deficient alike in

energy and experience; but the duke ought not to be made the scapegoat for a policy for which the whole cabinet was responsible. Neither would he consent to throw the blame upon a system which whatever might be its faults, when in the hands of able men, had accomplished great ends. It was the cabinet as a whole that must be held responsible for the evils that existed. Recurring to the explanatory speech of Lord John Russell, he said it reminded him of a page from the "Life of Bubb Doddington," in the unconscious admission it contained, of what, in the eighteenth century, would have been described as profligate intrigue. These dissensions would prove most injurious to the character of England. Two years ago, England was the leading power in Europe—would any man say that she now occupied that position? Under these circumstances, he felt that, being called upon to give a vote on this question, he could not refuse to give it against a deplorable administration.—Lord J. RUSSELL entered into some explanations with respect to the statements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and said, that if the whole of what had passed between himself and Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle were laid before the house, the transactions would have a different complexion. He would not enter further into that question, however; but he could not so easily pass by the expression of Mr. Disraeli characterising his conduct as a political intrigue. He repelled that charge; and as a precedent for what he had done, he referred to the substitution of Lord Stanley for Lord Goderich as Colonial Secretary, in Lord Grey's administration. No man would characterise that as a profligate intrigue, and he (Lord J. Russell) had proposed no more than was done there. There was no concealment in the matter; he requested the Earl of Aberdeen to show his letter to the Duke of Newcastle, and that, he was informed by Lord Aberdeen in his next letter, was done. In his anxiety to keep clear of everything like intrigue, he had, unadvisedly for himself perhaps, not communicated his intention of resigning to any one of his colleagues.—Lord PALMERSTON accepted the issue of this question as the right hon. gentleman opposite had put it—as a censure not upon the Duke of Newcastle, but upon the whole cabinet. He defended the principle of coalition governments, as unavoidable in the present state of parties in the country. He condemned the motion, because it would set a precedent, dangerous if it were carried out, and disappointing to the country if it were not. If it were only intended to overthrow the government, there were many other courses which might have been adopted without inconvenience or injury to the interests of the country. He hoped these unhappy dissensions would be confined to the overthrow of the government, and that this house would follow the example of the country, which was unanimous in its determination to carry on the war with vigour. Having settled what government they would support, he hoped the house would not discredit parliamentary government in the face of Europe by continuing these dissensions, and showing that a constitutional government was not so able to carry on war as governments framed on other principles.—Mr. Muntz and Mr. Horsman supported the motion.—Mr. T. DUNCOMBE asked whether the motion was really designed to institute a full inquiry into the state of the army, or would result merely in ousting the occupants of the treasury bench.—Mr. ROEMUCK replied that his motion for a committee was honestly framed, and, if he were supported by the house, should be honestly carried out.—The house divided—for Mr. Roebuck's resolution, 305; against, 148: majority, against the government, 157. The amount of the majority seemed to take all parties by surprise, and instead of the usual cheering there was a murmur of amazement, ending in general laughter.

On Tuesday, January 30, Lord PALMERSTON moved, in consequence of the present state of affairs, the adjournment of the house to Thursday.

On Thursday, February 1st, Lord PALMERSTON formally announced to the house that in consequence of the vote passed on Monday night the ministers had felt it to be their duty to *Place their Resignations in Her Majesty's Hands*, which had been graciously accepted.

In moving that the house should adjourn till Friday evening, he added that an adjournment for a longer interval would have been proposed, but that Sir De Lacy Evans had intimated his intention of taking his seat that night, when he would receive in person the thanks of the Commons, expressed by the Speaker, for his services in the Crimea.

On Friday, February 2nd, Lieutenant-General Sir DE LACY EVANS entered the house in full uniform. The whole of the members present remained standing as he passed up the house to his seat, and cheered him warmly.—The SPEAKER addressed him, and after an eloquent eulogy, delivered to him the unanimous thanks of the house for his zealous, intrepid, and distinguished services.—Sir DE LACY EVANS assured the house that he felt most deeply the very high honour that had just been conferred on him. He thanked the Speaker for alluding to his former military career, in which, though his services had not been recognised by the house, yet he had then a more difficult and a more intricate duty to perform. He then proceeded to complain of Lord John Russell, that in moving the vote of thanks to the army he suppressed almost all allusion to the services of the Second Division, which he commanded, though in three general engagements—at Alma, on the 26th of October, and likewise at Inkermann—the Second Division bore the brunt of the battle for hours together. The noble lord, he said in his theatrical sort of description of the battle of the Alma, reminded me of the opinion expressed by the witty Sidney Smith, whom we all know declared that the noble lord believed himself capable of commanding the Channel fleet. It is evident that he considers himself a better judge of these transactions than Lord Raglan. He described the battle rather minutely. He stated that the two divisions which exclusively won the battle were the First and Light Divisions. Now Lord Raglan stated in his despatch that the two leading divisions were the First and Second. It is clear that the noble lord, by his total oblivion of their services, placed that division in a position which might reflect most grievously upon them. He went on again to speak of the two lesser actions of the 25th and 26th October. He gave all due credit and honour to the gallantry displayed on the 25th October, but he passed over the much more successful action which took place on the subsequent day. That action was however, deemed worthy of the highest approbation by her Majesty, of the particular approbation of the noble lord commanding that army, and of the despatch to the French government by the general-in-chief commanding their forces. But the noble lord in his speech took no notice of that battle. In reference to the battle of Inkermann, in which the Second Division was first engaged, as in every other, not the slightest reference was made to that division, which suffered so severely, and had for a whole hour to bear the brunt of an attack of 20,000 men. That division was the only one engaged prominently in three general actions, and I think that division and myself have some reason to complain of the noble lord in his official statement to this house. Sir De Lacy concluded by saying he did not state this on his own account—it was on account of the gallant officers and men whom he commanded; and he felt deeply grateful to the Speaker and to the house for the honour which was now done to them. He should hope to say a few words on the state of the army, but he felt that this was not the proper time; other opportunities would arise for doing so.—Lord PALMERSTON moved that the address of the Speaker, together with so much of Sir De Lacy Evans's reply as related to the expression of his thanks should be entered on the records of the house.—Mr. WALPOLE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

On Monday, February 5, Admiral BERKELEY, in reply to a question from Mr. Deedes, stated that the *Reports of Waste and Disorder in Balaclava were much exaggerated*. The masters of many transports had sent letters, from some of which he read extracts, expressing their satisfaction at the arrangements made in that port. According to the latest accounts, he added, the pre-existing state of confusion had been rectified, and the harbour was now in excellent order.

Lord J. RUSSELL, when an adjournment was

moved, took occasion to enter into a further *Explanation of his Resignation*. He could not refrain from noticing the publication of what was stated to be a speech of the Duke of Newcastle, made elsewhere, unless he were content to allow what he thought grave errors to become established and settled in the public mind. That speech, he thought, placed the question too much as a dispute between himself and the Duke of Newcastle. It appeared to me (he said) at the end of last session, that the composition of the government was such that, not relying upon party support, it did not create any great attachment or enthusiasm, and frequent defeats attended the propositions that were made; but, in ordinary circumstances, I should have thought these defeats a sufficient reason to allow me to state to the Earl of Aberdeen that it was not advisable that such a government should continue, and that I could no longer attempt to conduct the business of the government in the House of Commons. But there was a great question then pending—a great question which is still pending—namely, that of the prosecution of the war. The house gave its confidence to the Government upon that subject; and I stated, and I thought I was justified in stating, that so long as I thought the war would be prosecuted in a vigorous and efficient manner we should be justified in holding office in spite of the defeats that I have mentioned. There is another consideration of a general nature which I wish to place before the house—namely, that it is of the utmost consequence in whose hands the conduct of the war is placed. My belief is, that if Lord North had conducted the seven years' war, we should not have had to boast of the conquest of Canada; and that if Lord Chatham had conducted the war of American Independence, we should not have had to deplore the capitulations of Saratoga and Yorktown, and to behold the triumphant fleet of an enemy riding in the Channel. Of so much consequence is it in whose hands the conduct of war is placed. But if this be so, the house, I am sure, will not think that it was unreasonable in me, being the principal member of the Government to answer in this house for the conduct of the war, not relying upon measures of internal improvement,—upon which we had the undoubted confidence of the country—you will not I think consider it was an unreasonable anxiety on my part that I should watch with the utmost care the prosecution of the war. As to the particular points in dispute. First, the Duke of Newcastle objected to the statement that there was a "strong wish" on his part to hold the office of secretary of state for the war department. But several members of the cabinet had so stated it to him; and Lord Aberdeen's letter where he said, that "no objection whatever was made to the choice of the war department by the duke," made the matter very clear. True, the Duke of Newcastle declared himself ready to hold either or neither of the offices; but Lord Aberdeen, who had great confidence in the duke's abilities, proposed to leave the choice of departments to himself. Had Lord Aberdeen requested him to take the war department, he would have felt it his duty to accept it, though with great reluctance, it being totally alien to his habits of business. Next, it was said that he had imputed errors to the Duke of Newcastle with respect to the 97th Regiment. Now he had mentioned these things to show the inefficiency of the system. Not that he felt that the Duke of Newcastle was unfit for the war department, but that either the prime minister should have constantly exerted himself to hurry on preparations, or that the war minister should have been a person of extraordinary authority and energy: had the prime minister been a man whose persuasions and dispositions led him to hasten on with eagerness the preparations and arrangements for war, the Duke of Newcastle would have been perfectly competent for the department which he held. In conformity with that opinion, he had written to the duke, saying—"you have done all you could do,"—meaning, that having been overruled by departments he could not do more. With regard to the statement that he had, on the 10th of December, changed his opinion on the subject, Lord John explained, that there were two questions, one relating to the constitution of the war depart-

ment, the other to the person who should hold it. About the former he had consulted Lord Panmure; who gave him his opinion, but advised him not to bring about a rupture of the government. What he stated to Lord Aberdeen related to that proposal; but he might have stated that he should not bring the personal question before the cabinet, since, if carried, it would have driven Lord Aberdeen from the government. The personal question he left in abeyance. Lord John admitted that he very likely ought to have submitted the question to the judgment of the cabinet, and if the cabinet decided against him, to have resigned at once: but, under the circumstances, he was then averse to going that length. Lord Palmerston was entirely right in saying that he had not taken the right time or mode of resigning. It was an error not to have fully considered the position he would be in if a motion for inquiry were made. But having committed that error, he would have been guilty of a greater error, "an error of morality—and there can be no sound polities without sound morality"—had he resisted inquiry and professed himself satisfied with arrangements he felt to be unsatisfactory. Neither could he, as suggested, have stood by his colleagues, and on defeat, have resigned with them; because a majority might have declared in favour of the government, partly on his assurance that he was not dissatisfied with the conduct of the war. While his resignation has been called hasty, he was struck by a statement in the speech ascribed to the Duke of Newcastle, that, some days before the meeting of parliament, he had placed his resignation in the hands of Lord Aberdeen. Lord John had been kept totally ignorant of that resignation; "and," he continued, "as my resignation was accepted, I must say I think my noble friend's advice to the Queen immediately to accept it, without any further communication with me, was somewhat hasty." "And now, sir, (he proceeded) you will perhaps permit me to observe, that, having been subject to many slanderous attacks on account of the course which I then pursued—having been made a mark for obloquy for the last week on account of the step which I took—I have only to say that if my past public life does not justify me from the charges of selfishness and of treachery—I shall seek no argument for the purposes of defence. It is not that I propose to live down such calumnies; but I do hope that I have anticipated them by the course which I have pursued during a somewhat extended public life. I may here be allowed to observe upon one phrase which is said to have been used by the noble duke—namely, that he had said to the Earl of Aberdeen, when my first letter was received, 'Do not give Lord John Russell any pretext for leaving the government. Accept my resignation.' Now, I must say, considering that for nearly two years I had been a subordinate member of the Earl of Aberdeen's government—that I had consented, after holding the office of prime minister for five years and a half, to serve under Lord Aberdeen, and had done my best to promote the success of his administration—that I had consented to the diminished importance of the great party to which I belonged—I must say, I think such a sneer on the part of the Duke of Newcastle was somewhat misplaced. I wonder it should not have occurred to him, 'These objections to my continuing to hold this office must be sincere. It may even be possible that there is some deficiency in my management of this great department.' But it does not seem to have occurred to him as within the range of possibility that he might not be absolutely faultless in his conduct of the office which he held, and that I should have had any other than some indirect motive in wishing for a change in that department." Lord John again referred to the case of Lord Goderich, now Earl of Ripon, to show that there was a precedent for the arrangement he proposed—to substitute Lord Palmerston for the Duke of Newcastle; and he lauded the patriotism of Lord Ripon—intimating that the Duke of Newcastle would have done well to follow his example. Having finished these statements, Lord John informed the house, that he had accepted her Majesty's commands to form an administration; that he had accepted them, feeling it incumbent on him not to shrink from the task; but that he had found insuperable objections to the accomplishment of that duty. But

whoever formed a government, he thought the house would feel that it would be its duty to support the executive in any measures they may think necessary. Before he sat down Lord John expressed regret for the omissions pointed out by Sir De Lacy Evans, when he moved the vote of thanks to the army.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, after adverting to the inconveniences attending these replies in one house to speeches in another, proceeded to supply, as he stated, some corrections of the narrative of Lord John Russell. As to the assumption of the office of war secretary by the Duke of Newcastle, it was only necessary to say, that it took place with the full, unqualified, and unhesitating sanction of the entire cabinet. With regard to the alleged change of opinion on the part of Lord John, and his suggestion respecting the two questions, Mr. Gladstone remarked that Lord Aberdeen and his colleagues had not the means of ascertaining the distinctions between the two questions in Lord John's mind. He thought that Lord John had made an erroneous version of what the Duke of Newcastle had said on the subject of his resignation, which he did not place in Lord Aberdeen's hands, but merely intimated to the earl how he intended to act at a future period.—Lord EBRINGTON expressed a hope that public men would lay aside their differences, so that an efficient government might be formed for the successful prosecution of the war; and the house adjourned.

On Tuesday, Feb. 6, the public business on the paper was postponed, and the house again *Adjourned*, after some comments on the loss of time in the settlement of the ministry.

On Wednesday, February 7th, a *New Writ for Tiverton* was moved for, in the room of Lord Palmers-ton, who had accepted the office of First Lord of the Treasury, and for *South Wilts*, in the room of Mr. Sidney Herbert, who had accepted the office of one of her Majesty's principal secretaries of state.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved that the house resolve itself into a *Committee of Supply* to vote a sum on account for the supplementary estimate for the ordnance department. He reminded the house of the restriction imposed upon the government by the rules of the house with regard to public money,—namely, that such money should not be only raised and appropriated by the authority of parliament, but that it should not be issued without a ways and means bill. He proposed to take a vote on account to meet the exigencies of the public service, leaving a residue to be voted, which would afford an opportunity for discussion.—Sir H. WILLoughby thought the proceeding irregular, and suggested whether, under the circumstances, it was competent for the house to go into supply and vote a large sum on account. He wished to know what was the meaning of these supplementary estimates, amounting for the navy and ordnance alone to 3,340,000*l.*, outstanding liabilities?—Mr. MUNZ agreed that this was an irregular proceeding, and mentioned two items in the supplementary estimate as extremely objectionable—one of 25,000*l.*, for a shell manufactory, which, he said, was a waste of money and a job; the other, 15,000*l.* for a building and machinery for small arms.—Mr. WALPOLE considered that, in the peculiar position of the government, the house should not object to go into a committee, and wait for explanations hereafter.—Sir C. WOOD said, it was not intended to bind any one by the vote, which was to meet the pressing demands of the public service. The proceeding was quite regular and in conformity with practice.—Mr. STAFFORD called the attention of the house to the state of the hospitals at Scutari, the deficiencies of which, according to a letter he had received, he said, instead of diminishing, increased. The daily deaths were, on an average, forty, and 500 sick arrived weekly. He urged that if some signal mark of approbation and confidence were not bestowed upon Dr. M'GRIGOR, much would be done to perpetuate the system of routine.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER observed, that there were two modes of proceeding open to Mr. Stafford—one, upon receiving the statement he had mentioned, to carry it to the proper department, or any department, of the government; the other, if the matter were neglected, to call to account the member of the government in that house

who was responsible. Mr. Stafford had, however, brought the subject forward in the absence of any member connected with the war department, and without notice, so that it was impossible for any member of the government to be prepared with a satisfactory explanation. He could say, nevertheless, that arrangements had been made, and were making, for supplying the deficiencies at the hospitals, and the government would receive any communications on the subject from Mr. Stafford with readiness and thankfulness. With regard to Dr. M'Grigor, the course taken by Mr. Stafford was neither more nor less than an individual member of parliament taking into his hands the duty of the executive government—a practice which would lead to injurious consequences.—Mr. WHITESIDE remarked upon the composure with which members of government spoke of the condition of our perishing army and of the horrors of the hospitals.—Colonel KNOX referred to a letter he had received from the camp, which described the sickness as most dreadful. “We are losing,” the writer stated, “1000 a-week, and the strength of the British army is not more than 11,000 men.” He thought Mr. Gladstone’s lecture to Mr. Stafford was ill-timed and misplaced.—Colonel DUNNE did not believe that, of the 11,000 men, more than 2000 were fit to go into action.—Sir W. MOLESWORTH said, the statement that the army was losing 1000 a-week was altogether incorrect. The government were prepared to substantiate the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that, including all arms and all ranks, and reckoning the auxiliary naval force, the army in the Crimea amounted to 30,000 men, according to the last returns received by the government.—The house then went into committee, and a vote of 1,200,000*l.* on account of the ordnance service was agreed to, after a short discussion.

On Thursday, February 8th, the house in committee of supply, voted the sum of 1,615,600*l.* on *Account of a Navy Estimate*, in excess of expenditure for 1854-55.—The report of the committee having been brought up, Mr. W. WILLIAMS inveighed against the gross mismanagement and waste of money in the departments of administration in the Crimea, whereby he considered that the nation was lowered and disgraced. The report was agreed to.

Lord J. RUSSELL obtained leave to bring in his bill for the *Promotion of Education in England and Wales*. In the present state of the government he would not go into the question, except to say that he introduced it as a private member, and he would leave the government afterwards to deal with it as they might think proper.

Mr. BUTT called the attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the statement he made some time ago, that the effective force of the *Army before Sebastopol* amounted, in round numbers, to 30,000 men. He wished the right hon. gentleman would verify that statement, as his own information led him to the conclusion that the effective force did not amount to 12,000 men.—Mr. S. WORTLEY called the attention of honourable gentlemen to the responsibility attending their making statements—exaggerated as he believed them—of the weakness of the army. There was no advantage to the public, and there might be much mischief, in such exposures. No doubt, the letters from the Crimea spoke with pity of the state of the army, and especially of the sufferings of the soldiers; but he had yet to learn that there was one letter received breathing that spirit of despondency which, to the shame of the house, was often heard within these walls. These statements could only tempt the Russians to attack our troops; and he believed the only reason they did not do so was that the Russians had suffered more than ourselves. Even the French army, which was held up as so superior to ours, was perhaps only believed to be so because no information was received as to its condition. He put it to the good sense of the house to disown these conversations in future.—Lord J. RUSSELL said part of the discrepancy arose from this, that the official statement referred to every individual sent to the Crimea, including every commissioned and non-commissioned officer, the cavalry, artillery, orderly men, &c., while the private accounts of 12,000 effective men being under arms

referred only to the number of bayonets, and excluding all the parties he before enumerated. He added that yesterday he met a civilian who had just returned from the Crimea, who informed him that, though there were many sick, yet the great body of the army still seemed ready to undertake any duty. He defended Lord Raglan from the charges of indifference to the comforts of his soldiers, which had been brought against him by a ribald press, and hoped that gallant nobleman would rise superior to them all. He drew a favourable augury for the country from the fact that Lord Palmerston had accepted the office of prime minister, and that his friend Lord Panmure had accepted the post of war minister. That nobleman, he was sure, would adopt every improvement really deserving the name, while he would recommend innovations that had nothing but their novelty to recommend them.—Mr. V. HAROURT said the private letters he had received were of a very different complexion from those referred to by hon. gentlemen opposite. They spoke of hardships, no doubt, but they also spoke with hope and confidence, and the hardships were not so great as those spoken of in some of the published statements.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER confirmed the explanation given by Lord John Russell of the discrepancy existing between the different published accounts. But he could assure the house that in the statement he made a few nights ago he did not include a single Turk, nor a single sick or wounded man. He sympathised with the strong feelings entertained by honourable members as to the state of our army in the Crimea, and he did not impute to them factious motives; but he entreated them to use more caution in their statements, which were calculated to do much mischief out of doors.—Mr. G. DUNDAS said he had lately returned from the Crimea, and he took a more hopeful view of the army than some honourable gentlemen. Many supplies had come to the army when he was there, and more had gone since.

On Friday, February 9th, Mr. CRAWFORD inquired whether the Board of Admiralty had *Censured and Dismissed Admiral Napier*, and what instructions had been given to the gallant admiral in reference to his operations. He asked this question in consequence of a speech lately made by Sir C. Napier at the Mansion-house.—Admiral BERKELEY criticised in severe terms the conduct of Admiral Napier, and denied the whole of his statements. The gallant admiral had not been censured or dismissed; he was not goaded on to attack any particular fortress—had not been restricted from attacking any fortresses he pleased—and he was, moreover, told that the country would accept everything he could perform. The Admiralty left him perfectly unfettered in his command. He thought the speech of Admiral Napier would have a very bad effect upon the junior officers in the service, and was in every other respect much to be regretted.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said there was a notice on the paper that the hon. member for Richmond would ask him, whether he had any objection to lay on the table of the house a copy of the official papers on which he found his *Statement respecting the Army in the Crimea*, that, exclusive of sick at Balaklava and elsewhere, there was an effective British force of 28,200 men, independently of 3,000 or 4,000 marines and marine brigade. His answer to that question was, that there had always been a great objection, founded upon general principles, to publish statements as to the distribution of the military force, and such an objection was entertained on this occasion. At the same time he begged to say that if the hon. member for Richmond, or any other hon. member, desired information for the satisfaction of his own mind, he was at liberty to have the fullest access to it.—The house then adjourned till Friday the 16th inst.

On Friday, the 16th, Lord PALMERSTON stated the *Circumstances of his Appointment as Head of the Government*. It had already been correctly stated by the Earl of Derby that that nobleman, when commissioned by the Queen to form a government, offered him a seat in his cabinet, making the same offer to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the present Secretary to the Colonies. I stated (said Lord Palmerston.) as was correctly stated by that noble lord, that those habits of long personal friendship which co-operation in

office had engendered, and the high esteem which I felt for his personal character and statesman-like habits, would render me anxious to co-operate with him in a public emergency, when it was of the utmost national importance that a government should be formed. I said, however, that I could give him no answer till I had had an opportunity of communicating with friends of mine; but that one thing I was prepared to say, which was this, that in the present state of our foreign relations I should be unwilling to belong to any government in which the conduct of our foreign affairs did not continue in the hands of the Earl of Clarendon, who had shown great ability and success in the management of the department confided to his care. The communication as stated by Lord Derby was made a little before two o'clock. I communicated as soon as I could with my right honourable friends; I communicated also with that noble friend of mine upon whose judgment I place the most implicit reliance, and whose opinion would guide me in every important transaction of my life—I mean the Marquis of Lansdowne; and the result was, that I wrote to the noble lord to say that I did not think that by accepting the proposal he had done me the honour to make me I could give to his government that strength he was pleased to think my acceptance of office would confer. It was remarked as somewhat unexplained, that that intention of mine was quoted by my right honourable friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his answer given at a later hour to Lord Derby. The fact is, that that opinion of mine was formed upon a full consideration, and communicated to my right hon. friend before he wrote in reply to the offer that was made to him also, declining to join the administration. That endeavour made, her Majesty was pleased to call upon my noble friend the member for the city of London, and to charge him with the task of forming an administration. My noble friend did me the honour, immediately after that command was given, to come to me and ask me to accord him my assistance. My great personal regard and esteem for my noble friend, the perfect similarity of political opinions which existed between us, led me at once, and without hesitation, to say that, feeling impressed with the full importance of the crisis in which we stood, any assistance it was in my power to give him should, without any hesitation, be given. And if he had succeeded in forming an administration, I should have felt the greatest alacrity in giving him any assistance it might be in my power to render. That attempt did not succeed, and it was the pleasure of her Majesty then to commission me to endeavour to form a government, if I thought I could succeed in submitting to her a list of administration likely to command the confidence of parliament and adequately to carry on the public service of the state. I received that command about six o'clock on the Sunday evening, and I was fortunate enough to be able, on the Tuesday afternoon, to report to her Majesty that I had obtained the assistance of such colleagues as I thought her Majesty might fairly approve, as answering the description she had been pleased to give in the commands she gave me to make the attempt. The government was then formed, and I trust that it contains sufficient administrative ability, sufficient political sagacity, sufficient liberal principles, sufficient patriotism and determination to omit no effort to fulfil the duties which each member has undertaken, and to justify me in appealing to this house, to parliament and to the country, for such support as men may be considered entitled to receive who, in a period of great difficulty and of national emergency, have determined to undertake the responsibility of endeavouring to carry on the business of the country. Lord Palmerston then gave some account of the *Measures Contemplated by the Government.* In undertaking the task to which her Majesty had called him, he stated that the first difficulty which stared him in the face was Mr. Roebuck's committee, to which he had the same objection now that he expressed in the course of the debate, and he hoped the house would be induced at least to suspend the appointment of that committee, and if they did so, he would pledge the honour of the government that they would themselves undertake the inquiry. He proposed to amalgamate the office of

secretary of war with the office of secretary for the war department, and to transfer the discipline of the artillery under the control of the commander-in-chief, and the civil department of the ordnance under the secretary for the war department. The first lord of the admiralty had established a board for the superintendence of the transport service. The government proposed to send out a commission of three civilians to examine into the sanitary condition of the camp, the hospitals, and the ships in the Crimea and the Black Sea. Lord Raglan had been instructed to send to Constantinople for a corps of labourers, whose sole duty it would be to cleanse the camp from filth and offal. Another commission, at the head of which was Sir John Macneill, was going out to examine and report upon the commissariat department, with full power to remedy defects, and to reorganise the whole service. General Simpson was about to go out as chief of the staff—an office which had not before existed in the British army—and would have full power over the adjutant-general and quartermaster-general's departments. The hospital at Smyrna was to be placed entirely under civilian medical men, and civilian surgeons would be invited for other places. But the secretary for war was going to remodel entirely the medical department at home. His noble friend was about to introduce a bill into the other house enabling the Queen to enlist men of more advanced years, and for shorter periods than were at present allowed. A land transport service corresponding to the old wagon train had already been organised, and would at once be set to work. If the house would wait and see the effect of these changes, he was satisfied that the results would be known in a much shorter period than the report of a committee. But while they were making every effort for the vigorous prosecution of the war, they felt it no less their duty to secure as soon as possible an honourable peace; and with that view the government had obtained the services of Lord John Russell to proceed to the approaching congress at Vienna as plenipotentiary, believing that his appointment was the best pledge they could give both of their earnest desire for peace and of their determination that the peace should be a safe and an honourable one. My noble friend, I believe, will proceed in the early part of next week. Of course, he will pass through Paris, to have a confidential communication with the French government. He will also pass by Berlin, in order to communicate with the government of Prussia; and whatever delays these visits may interpose to his arrival at Vienna, I think the time he spends in these capitals will not be misplaced. Now, sir, if we should succeed in obtaining peace upon terms which would afford a security for the future against the recurrence of those disturbances of the peace of Europe which have led to the war in which we are engaged, we should think that our first acts in undertaking the government will be as satisfactory to the country as they will be satisfactory to ourselves; but if we fail, why then I think that the country will feel that there is no alternative but to go on with the war; and I am convinced that this nation will then with greater zeal, with greater alacrity, if possible, than ever, give its support to a government which having made every possible attempt to obtain peace, should have failed in doing so, and is compelled to carry on the war for the attainment of that peace—a war which the sense and judgment of the country have pronounced to be virtually indispensable and necessary. We shall in that case throw ourselves upon the generous spirit of parliament and the country; that generous spirit I am confident we shall not ask for in vain. I am sure that in that state of things all our minor differences and mere party shades of distinction will vanish, that men of all sides will feel that they are Englishmen, and that they ought to support their country in its great emergencies. I am confident we shall show the noble and glorious spectacle that, as a free people and under a constitutional government, there is a life, a spirit, an energy, a power of endurance, and a vigour of action which are vainly to be sought for under despotic rule or under arbitrary sway. Lord Palmerston concluded by moving that the Speaker do now leave the chair, and resumed his seat amid loud cheers.—Mr. DISRAELI reverted to the past ministerial interregnum for the pur-

pose of explaining and defending the conduct of Lord Derby in making overtures of coalition to certain members of the Aberdeen cabinet. He went on to criticise the pleas advanced by Lord Palmerston for the abandonment of the proposed committee of inquiry. He ridiculed the reasons which the noble lord had given for rescinding their vote on the appointment of a committee, and declared his determination to persevere in the inquiry; and intimated that, if a dissolution were the consequence of the house persisting in that inquiry, he, for one, would desire no better question on which to appear before his constituents.—Mr. ROEBUCK saw no ground in what had been stated by Lord Palmerston for withdrawing his committee, and he would persevere in moving their names on Thursday next.—Mr. Muntz, Mr. T. Duncombe, Mr. Horsman, Mr. E. Ball, and Mr. Liddell expressed their determination to persevere in the inquiry.—Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR complained that Mr. Layard had been excluded from the administration in deference to Admiral Dundas, and of other short-comings in the composition of the government. He had little faith in the commissions to be appointed, which would end, he feared, as the report on the state of the harbour at Balaklava had ended—in the reports of the men who were most interested in the continuance of the abuse. He was still in favour of the inquiry.

Captain DUNCOMBE said before the house went into committee of supply he wished to ask the First Lord of the Admiralty for an explanation of the *Position in which the late Commander of the Baltic Fleet, Sir Charles Napier, stood with reference to the Admiralty*, and also as to the charges which that gallant officer had brought against the Board, and against the right hon. baronet who presided over that Board, more particularly?—Sir J. GRAHAM stated that he had intended, before moving the navy estimates, to have offered a few observations on the subject referred to. At the same time he should not attempt to refute the charges brought against himself by the gallant admiral, because to do so explicitly and fully would necessitate the production of correspondence which would prejudice our position in the Baltic, and be detrimental to the public service. It was quite true, as Sir C. Napier had stated, that in the first instance some of the ships were badly manned and worse disciplined, but every exertion had been made in the appointment of officers to the fleet, with a view to improving the discipline, and a better system was arrived at. Soon after taking the command, Sir C. Napier complained to the Admiralty of the want of a better disciplined body of men, but he never specified the names of the ships in which that defect existed, although solicited by the Board to do so. With regard to the speech he (Sir J. Graham) made when Sir C. Napier took command of the Baltic fleet, he would only say he was not likely to use the same language upon any future occasion. He trusted that he had become more prudent since then. With regard to the question of the hon. and gallant member opposite, as to whether Sir C. Napier had been censured or dismissed, he (Sir James Graham) could only reiterate what his gallant friend (Admiral Berkeley) had already told the house, namely, that there was no foundation for such assertions. But the Admiralty had felt bound to make strong comments upon certain aspersions contained in some part of the gallant Admiral's correspondence with the Board, and which they thought were neither courteous nor becoming. The gallant Admiral was not dismissed, but at the close of the expedition he was simply ordered to leave his flag, for which course there were many precedents. In conclusion, Sir J. Graham said he would willingly allow Sir C. Napier to proclaim himself a hero, but as he was not disposed to enable the gallant Admiral to dub himself a martyr, it was not his intention to advise the Crown to take any further notice of the matter.

The house then went into a committee of supply, and Sir J. GRAHAM moved the *Naval Estimates*. He recapitulated the various items, and explained the nature and the cause of the excess in the charges appearing under almost every head. The net result went to show an increase in the number of men engaged, comprising 6000 seamen and 500 marines, and raising the total personnel of the navy to 70,000 hands. The gross expenditure amounted to something more than ten mil-

lions, and exhibited an enhancement of only 299,000, beyond the outlay of the previous year. Respecting the arrangements for the ensuing campaign, the First Lord stated that difficulties had been found to arise in manoeuvring mixed squadrons composed of sailing vessels and steamers, and it was therefore determined to send no sailing ships to the Baltic this year, but he hoped to have twenty ships of war, all propelled by steam, in readiness for service in that quarter by the end of the next six weeks. Detailing the measures adopted to increase the force of gunboats and mortar vessels, and for the construction of floating batteries, Sir J. Graham declared that provision was making, not only to repair any amount of ordinary dilapidation, but also to meet the consequences of possible casualty or disaster.—After a prolonged and miscellaneous discussion, the several votes on the estimates were agreed to, as was a subsequent vote of £181,000, for the transport service.

On Monday, February 19th, a debate of some length arose upon the *Three London Dock Bills*, which stood for second reading, but which were thrown out on a division by a very large majority.

Among a great variety of questions put to the government, Mr. C. BERKELEY inquired whether it was true or not that *Lord Lucan had been Recalled from the command of the cavalry in the Crimea?*—Lord PALMERSTON replied that it was true, and that it was in consequence of differences between Lord Lucan and the Commander of the Forces, which rendered it impossible for them to act together.

On the first order of the day for going into committee of supply, Mr. LAYARD called attention to the *Condition of the Country*, which was supposed, he said, to be standing almost upon the brink of ruin. He adverted first to the composition of the government, to which was to be confided the conduct of one of the greatest wars ever intrusted to any administration. That government was almost identical with the last; it behoved parliament therefore to consider what the late government had done, and how far those members who remained were worthy of its confidence. After glancing at the alleged deficiencies of the late administration in regard to their diplomacy, the blockade of the Russian ports, and the foreign enlistment act, he observed that what was proposed by the present ministry was not to recall incompetent agents, but to send out a series of commissions; what the country, however, wanted, was not commissions, but men, or a man, fit for the emergency. Among the prospective measures enumerated by Lord Palmerston, nothing was said about the Horse Guards; yet, unless the government were determined to remodel that branch of the military administration, and to do away with the system of favouritism, the country would not be satisfied. Mr. Layard insisted strongly upon the latter point, and called upon the government, if they desired to save the remnant of our gallant men in the Crimea, to send thither a man of vigour, who would, in defiance of family considerations, cut down abuses with a knife. In spite of the great reputation of the present first minister, the people of England, he thought, would not be content with what he had done; they were now quiet, but a storm might arise, and unless the government did some thing not only they, but others, would be shipwrecked.—General PEEL said he had voted against Mr. Roebuck's motion, not because he denied the evils in question, or because he treated the motion as a vote of non-confidence in the government, but because he had no confidence in the tribunal, believing a committee of that house to be the worst tribunal for trying such a question, and that the causes of the evils which had beset our army were so evident that no committee was required to discover them. The war had been entered upon with inadequate means; with such means more had been attempted than any army could accomplish.—Lord PALMERSTON was, he said, the last to find fault with any man who blamed any part of our administrative system, but he protested against the language he had heard from Mr. Layard, who had talked of the degradation of this country and of its becoming the laughing-stock of Europe. He lamented the sufferings of the army, and he admitted that those sufferings had been aggravated by want of management on the part of those

who had the administration of the details; but these mistakes had not been confined to the British troops; he had pretty good ground for asserting that the sick and wounded in the camp of the Russians amounted to 35,000 men. These sufferings arose from physical causes in the power of no man to control. After a brief reply to some parts of Mr. Layard's speech, Lord Palmerston added that he was satisfied that the people of this country looked more deeply into those things than that gentleman supposed, and that when they saw a government established in consequence of the failure of two attempts, they would feel that men who undertook the conduct of affairs in such circumstances from a sense of public duty, and from honourable motives, were entitled to the credit of being actuated by a desire to perform a public duty, and that they would give their support to such men, not forcing themselves upon the country, but coming forward at an emergency. The government threw themselves upon the generosity of parliament and the country, and he was convinced that, with their support, in spite of trifling reverses, they would carry the contest to a successful issue, and, whether by an honourable peace now, or by force of arms hereafter, place the country upon a proud footing of security.

After some remarks by Mr. J. Phillimore, Mr. Warner, and Major Reid, the house went into committee upon the *Army Estimates*.—Mr. F. PEEL prefaced the details of the estimates by remarking that they differed from the estimates of the current year—first, in the increased number of men—namely, 178,645 (exclusive of the troops in India, of the foreign corps, and the embodied militia) which exceeded the vote of last year by 35,869 men; secondly, in the large augmentation of many of the services heretofore included in the estimates, and in the creation of new departments, such as the land transport corps. He then stated the manner in which the increase was distributed over the entire army, and explained the various items. The charge for the effective land forces was 7,353,000*l.*—an excess over the charge of last year of 2,630,000*l.* The charge for the embodied militia was 3,813,000*l.* The total amount for effective and non-effective services was 13,721,000*l.* The total strength of the army for the coming year, exclusive of artillery, engineers, and the troops in India, was 193,595 of all ranks, of which number 14,950 would consist of foreigners; and this formed the first vote submitted to the committee, the discussion of which, embracing various matters connected with the prosecution of the war, occupied the rest of the evening.—Lord PALMERSTON, in the course of a general reply to objections, vindicated the policy of the government in the conduct of hostilities, their main object being, he observed, to cripple the Russian power in the Black Sea, where alone an effectual blow could be struck, leaving the land frontier of Turkey to the protection of Austria. He stated likewise, as the reason why the government had not hitherto succeeded in putting the foreign enlistment act in operation, that the language used in the debates in parliament had created such a feeling of indignation throughout the continent, that persons who had been prepared to take letters of service in Germany had thrown them up, declaring that they were unable to raise a man. With regard to the deficiencies of the army, he added, they arose not from want of supplies, but from want of arrangements for conveying to the men and horses the things sent out for them; these deficiencies would be remedied by the government.—Mr. WILSON gave explanations respecting the coffee sent to the Crimea, in reply to some severe remarks by Colonel North.—This vote, and the next, for the sum of 7,353,804*l.*, having been agreed to, the chairman was ordered to report progress.

The house then went into committee on the *Newspaper, &c., Postage and Stamp Duties*, when the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the following resolutions:—"That it is expedient To Repeal the Exemption of Newspapers from Postage Duty, and to charge on newspapers and printed books and papers transmitted by post rates of postage not exceeding 1*d.* for every four ounces in weight, and for any fractional part of four ounces;" and "That it is expedient To Alter and Amend the Laws Relating to the Stamp Duties on Newspapers, the printing and publishing of

newspapers, and registration and giving securities in connection therewith, and the regulation of the duties of postage on printed papers," which were agreed to.—The report of the committee of supply was brought up and agreed to.

The *Consolidated Fund Bill* was read a second time.

On Tuesday, February 20, Mr. Sergeant SHEPHERD obtained leave to bring in a bill to *Provide Compensation for Improving Tenants, and to Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to Leasing Powers in Ireland*.

Mr. DUNLOP obtained leave to bring in a bill to facilitate the *Erection of Dwelling Houses for the Working Classes in Scotland*.

Mr. J. PHILLIMORE moved for leave to bring in a bill for the *Appointment of Public Prosecutors*. After a short discussion, leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. COLLIER called attention to the state of our *Trade with Russia*, and moved for certain returns. He adverted to the peculiarity of our trade with Russia. The landed proprietors of that empire drew their revenues from the products of the soil, for which we were the greatest customers, and those products were raised by the advance of capital by British merchants, the cutting off of which resource would sap the foundation of the Russian power. At the outbreak of the war the rouble, the pulse of Russian commerce, declined from 38*d.* to 32*d.*, and was still expected to fall much lower; the ruin of the landed proprietors was anticipated, and the bankruptcy of the Czar. But if we failed in our military operations in the Crimea, the failure of our operations against the commerce of Russia had been greater. So far from the principal Russian ports in the East having been blockaded, their exports had been greater than before. The commerce of Russia had suffered no injury; 10,000,000*l.* had gone from this country to Russia in the present year, and the rouble had risen to par. Most effect had been expected from the blockade of the Black Sea ports, and those in the Sea of Azoff, and he contrasted the answers given to the question put in that house to Sir J. Graham with the facts. We had blockaded the mouths of the Danube, which ought not to have been blockaded, and we had not blockaded the ports in the Sea of Azoff, which should have been closed; the consequence of which had been that British merchants, who had made arrangements for opening up new markets for produce hitherto supplied by Russia, had sustained enormous loss, the only parties benefiting being the Greek merchants. Some explanation upon this subject, he considered, was due to the public, who were entitled to know the causes of this failure and the parties in fault. With respect to the blockade of the Baltic, that had been evaded by the system of land carriage which, with the connivance of Prussia the Emperor of Russia had organised and brought to perfection. He suggested that Prussia had been thereby guilty of a breach of neutrality which would furnish a ground of remonstrance; that we might enforce a right of search; or we might prohibit the importation of Russian produce into this country. The objections to this policy were two-fold—one, that it would be ineffectual; the other, that it would injure ourselves. He denied the former, and, admitting the latter, he insisted that we must be prepared to submit to the necessary sacrifices of war.—Mr. MITCHELL supported the views of Mr. Collier.—Mr. CARDWELL said, when, at the expiration of a peace of forty years, we found ourselves involved in a European conflict, it became necessary to consider what ought to be the commercial policy of this country, and to regard the course to be pursued with reference to the enemy with whom we were about to contend, to our allies, and to neutral powers. The declaration of war was accompanied by a declaration of policy on our part, not waiving our belligerent rights, but suspending a portion of them. Mr. Collier had alleged that the course adopted had been wholly ineffective; but he (Mr. Cardwell) would show that it had been far from ineffective. Mr. Collier had indicated the peculiarity of the Russian trade which was sustained in peace by British capital employed in raising the produce of Russia. The natural corollary was that time should be allowed for British subjects to bring that produce home. Time had therefore been given in the Baltic and in the White Sea. With regard to the Black Sea, the

blockade, he admitted, had not been enforced in a satisfactory manner; but the general result of our operations had been to annihilate the Russian commerce while our ships were unharmed. Again, there was reason to believe that the manufactures of Russia had materially suffered, as our blockade of her ports had put upon Russia the very pressure which Mr. Collier was anxious to inflict upon this country in the supply of raw materials. Mr. Cardwell referred to statistical details, showing the diminution of the exports of produce from Russia and of the imports of cotton. The depreciation of the rouble had been appealed to, but an argument drawn from the exchanges was, he observed, but another form of the argument to be deduced from the general results of commerce, and, as the exchanges were liable to a variety of disturbing causes, it was safer, in his opinion, to rely upon other indications. By our blockade, then, we had produced a considerable effect upon Russia. Was it in our power by other means to inflict a greater injury, and would not those other measures inflict a greater injury upon England? Blockades operating upon neutrals produced a maximum of pressure upon Russia and a minimum of pressure upon ourselves, whereas commercial restrictions at home would have an opposite effect. Mr. Cardwell then examined at considerable length the remedial suggestions offered by Mr. Collier and Mr. Mitchell, insisting upon the evils attending the enforcement of the right of search, and upon the frauds inseparable from a system of certificates of origin. It appeared to him, he said, remarkable that at the end of twelve months of war we had inflicted so much pressure upon the enemy with so small an injury to our own commerce; and this result he thought justified the mode of aggression which had been adopted by the government.—After some remarks by Mr. Ricardo, Lord Duncan, Sir J. Graham, and Mr. Duncan, the motion for the returns was agreed to.

On Thursday, the 22nd, Lord PALMERSTON announced that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Secretary for the Colonies, had resigned their offices, and therefore requested the house to *Adjourn* till Friday. After some routine business the house adjourned accordingly.

On Friday, Feb 23, Sir James Graham, Mr. S. Herbert, and Mr. Gladstone, gave *Explanations of their Reasons for Resigning*. Sir J. GRAHAM said that he had hoped that the change in the Cabinet, and the administrative reform which had already been inaugurated in his own and other departments, would be accepted by the house as satisfying its displeasure for past misdeeds and securing better management in future. This not being the case, and the inquiry by a committee being still insisted upon, he felt unable to sanction or accept a proceeding which he believed to be alike unnecessary, unjust, and inexpedient.—Mr. S. HERBERT's explanation was similar to that of Sir J. Graham. The step he had taken, he said, was a painful one, proceeding from a paramount sense of duty.—Mr. GLADSTONE began by alluding to the proffers made to him by Lord Derby in the early stages of the ministerial crisis, and read some passages from the correspondence that passed on that occasion. It had been a subject of regret to him that a government had not then been formed by the noble earl from among his own parliamentary supporters. When subsequently he was asked by Lord Palmerston to join his administration, he felt that he had no just cause to refuse, although suffering much pain by his severance from Lord Aberdeen. After expressing his conscientious admiration for his late chief, Mr. Gladstone stated that his reason for quitting office arose from the fact that the government had decided upon adopting an alternative which he considered fatal. No one had shown that the committee was a fit engine for prosecuting such an investigation, or said anything to shake his persuasion that it would turn out either an imposture or a mischief, not both at once. By insisting on its appointment the house would practically wrest the powers of government from the hands of the executive, and delegate them to a section of its own members. To the argument that an unprecedented emergency justified an extraordinary intervention, he replied by contending that the instrument now suggested must

prove, not only mischievous, but altogether weak and futile, Lord PALMERSTON acknowledged the conscientious motives which had urged his late colleagues into retirement, and expressed his sorrow at losing their services and co-operation. When assuming the responsibility of office, Lord Palmerston declared that he had never intended to abandon the post merely upon the contingency of the vote for a committee being persisted in, and such he intimated was his persuasion respecting the determination of his colleagues. He stated that the government still adhered to the terms proposed as basis for the negotiations at Vienna, and were prosecuting the conferences in perfect good faith. They would lose no opportunity of hastening the advent of peace, but would never consent to any terms which did not afford a full security of repose and independence to Europe. These explanations produced various comments from different members.—The house then proceeded to nominate the committee of inquiry, after a brief protest from Mr. R. Phillimore, and some remarks from Sir T. D. Acland and Sir H. Willoughby.—In reply to the last mentioned member, Lord PALMERSTON stated that he did not intend to propose any limitation to the inquiries of the committee, believing that sufficient guarantee was afforded by the known discretion and judgment of the members of which it was composed.—Mr. ROEBUCK explained the principles on which his committee had been selected, expressing his assurance that it deserved the confidence of the house.—The names of the proposed members of the committee were put and successively agreed to, a division being taken on a motion for substituting the name of Captain Scobell for that of Mr. Bramston. The motion was negatived by 101 votes to 80—21.—The following are the names of the committee,—Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Drummond, Sir J. Pakington, Mr. Layard, Colonel Lindsay, Mr. Ellice, sen., Lord Seymour, Sir George Cornewall Lewis, Mr. Ball, Mr. Bramston.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Monday, Jan. 29.—Earl Grey's Motion respecting the Administration of the Army.

Thursday, Feb. 1st.—The Ministry; Statements of Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle.

5th.—North American Fisheries Bill read a first time.

6th.—Cathedral Appointments Act read a third time and passed. North American Fisheries Bill read a second time. Protection of Purchasers Bill read a first time.

8th.—North American Fisheries Bill committed.

16th.—Lord Panmure's Statement as to the War Department.

20th.—Army Service Act Amendment Bill read a second time.

House of Commons.—Monday, Jan. 29th.—Adjourned debate on Mr. Roebuck's motion, carried by 365 to 148.

30th.—North American Fisheries Bill read a first time. Carriage of Passengers Bill read a first time.

Friday, Feb. 2nd.—Vote of thanks to Sir De Lacy Evans.

5th.—North American Fisheries Bill read a third time and passed.

7th.—Public Libraries and Museums Bill read a second time.

8th.—Supply, Vote for the Navy.

9th.—Writ for New Winslor, vacated by Lord C. Wellesley. Supply, Supplementary Civil Estimates. Ways and Means Committee.

16th.—Committee of Supply, Naval Estimates.

19th.—East and West India Dock Bill thrown out on second reading. Committee of Supply—Army Estimates.

20th.—Leave given to bring in Bills—Irish Tenant Laws, Dwelling Houses for Working Classes, and appointment of a public prosecutor. Army Service Amendment Bill read a first time. Reports from Committee of Supply and Newspaper Stamps brought up and agreed to.

21st.—Nuisances Removal Bill and Public Health Bill read a second time, and referred to Select Committees. Common Law Procedure Bill went through Committee. Committee of Supply—Army Service Bill read a second time.

22d.—Explanations by Sir J. Graham, Mr. S. Herbert, and Mr. Gladstone. Nomination of Mr. Roebuck's Committee.

Lord Palmerston was re-elected for Tiverton on the 12th inst., without opposition. He was proposed by Mr. John Heathcoat Amory, and seconded by Major Hole.

Mr. Sidney Herbert's return for the Southern Division of Wiltshire passed, on the 15th, also, without opposition. The new secretary for the colonies was proposed by Mr. A. Powell, and seconded by Mr.

J. H. Jacob. Mr. Herbert, in mentioning his acceptance of office, said he had felt that Lord Palmerston was entitled to ask from him, and that he was bound to give, whatever service it was in his power to render. Of the army in the Crimea he said, that it has met with "an enemy more fell and more dangerous to it than the actual foe,—that is, disease—by which it has been crippled to a fearful extent, and has had to undergo privations and hardships which have been borne with a heroism almost unexampled, but which may be and must be attributed to causes that require searching investigation in order that the proper remedy may be applied, and that the blame, if blame there be, should fall upon the right shoulders. This inquiry it behoves the Government to lose no time in instituting." Of Lord John Russell's mission to Vienna, he remarked,—"I think that the government of Lord Palmerston has done wisely in sending a statesman of the character, the antecedents, the reputation, and known ability of Lord John Russell, to ascertain whether or not the time has arrived when we can have peace made upon those conditions which we consider to be necessary and indispensable to secure a durable as well as an honourable pacification." Though the election was unanimous, Mr. Herbert was assailed by showers of questions—such as "Who starved the soldiers?" "What about the green coffee-berries served to the soldiers?" "Where is our army?" "Why did 'he' spare Odessa?"

Both Houses of Convocation met on the 6th inst. In the Upper House the principal proceedings related to proposed alterations in the Church services. An address on the subject was presented by the Bishop of Salisbury from a clergyman in his diocese, and ordered to lie on the table; and a report was read by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Bishop of Oxford moved the following resolutions—"That some modifications of the Church's rules are desirable, to enable her adequately to administer to the spiritual necessities of the people of this land; and that such modifications may most properly be considered with reference, first, to the services, and secondly, to the ministerial agency which she now employs. "That, in any modification of the Church's rules to her services, it should be a fundamental principle that the Book of Common Prayer should be maintained wholly and unaltered, except in so far as it is inconsistent with the rubric; and that the division of the present in the formation of new services be reconstructions from those now existing, with such changes in the Psalters and Table as may be judged needful. "That no division of the services appears to be desirable which would not insure the use of the whole order, morning and evening, now contained in the Book of Common Prayer, on Sundays and other holidays." The Bishop of Exeter moved the addition of the words, "Provided that nothing new be introduced which is not now in the Book of Common Prayer." But there was no support for this, and the Bishop of Oxford's resolution was carried. After a long discussion, it was resolved to appoint a committee to consider the heads of an address to the Queen, founded on the resolution. On the 8th inst, the Archbishop of Canterbury read a report on the changes required in the present constitution of Convocation. The principal changes are, that there shall be a proctor for every archdeaconry elected by the clergy; and that all beneficed clergy, curates, and chaplains in priests' orders, and licensed by the bishop, shall have a vote. The remainder of the report relates to the mode of doing business in both houses, founded on precedents. With respect to the vexed questions as to the right of the president of the Upper House to refuse to submit propositions to the Upper House, and as to his power of proroguing Convocation against the wishes of his brethren, as the precedents are not decisive, the report suggests that it would be expedient that he should not be at liberty to refuse to submit propositions; and that while he possesses the power of prorogation, he should, in ordinary prorogations, act with the consent of his brethren. This report was received; but, on the motion of the Bishop of Oxford, the house resolved that it was not expedient to address her Majesty as to any alterations in the constitution. In the sitting of the Lower House on the 6th inst, Archdeacon Denison proceeded to make a statement respecting his case, but was

stopped by the Prolocutor as being out of order. Mr. Denison, however, read a statement purporting to be an account of what took place before the Cleveton Commission; and he reserved to himself the right to go into the whole case at a future session. It next became a question whether the written statement could be received; and on this the house divided, rejecting the paper by 36 to 33. The resolutions which had been agreed to in the Upper House were then brought down and read. Archdeacon Denison had moved that the Church service resolutions should not be received, when the house was adjourned without coming to a decision. On the 8th inst, the Lower House was occupied with the consideration of the resolutions on Church services sent down from the Upper House; respecting which there was great difference of opinion; and strong expressions from Dr. McCaul, Archdeacon Denison, and others, against touching the Prayer Book. At last, a modification of the resolutions sent down by the Upper House was adopted, on the motion of Archdeacon Grant, A committee was appointed, and the house adjourned.

A crowded meeting to consider the "*Deplorable and Wretched state of the Army in the Crimea*," and the causes thereof, was held at Derby on the 10th inst. The speakers, including some working men, denounced the government for cruelty to the army, and demanded inquiry with a view to the punishment of the guilty. The resolutions adopted also called for inquiry; for reorganisation of the military departments, under one ruling head; for an abolition of the sale of commissions; the dismissal of men of an obsolete age and an obsolete practice, and the appointment of men whose genius and mechanical science have added to our power and commercial greatness. A petition to parliament, embodying those demands, was unanimously adopted.

The following is the list of the ministry formed by Lord Palmerston:—Lord Palmerston, First Lord of the Treasury; Lord Cranworth, Lord Chancellor; Earl Granville, President of the Council; Duke of Argyll, Lord Privy Seal; Earl of Clarendon, Foreign Secretary; Mr. Sydney Herbert, Colonial Secretary; Sir George Grey, Home Secretary; Lord Panmure, Secretary for War; Mr. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir James Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty; Sir William Molesworth, Public Works; Sir Charles Wood, President of the Board of Control; The Marquis of Lansdowne, without office; Lord Canning, Postmaster-General. Some minor offices it appears have not yet been filled up; but Mr. Gladstone, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Sidney Herbert have since resigned their offices. Lord Palmerston and Mr. Herbert have been re-elected, without opposition, for Tiverton and South Wilts.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A *Dreadful Murder* was committed on Saturday night, the 27th of January, at Rochester. The victim was Mrs. Bacon, an old lady who lived, with a maid-servant, in Ordnance-road. On Sunday morning, a man named Pearson, who is in the daily custom of calling with vegetables, while so engaged at the adjoining house, heard a rattling at the door, as of some one endeavouring to force his way out, and, on going to the spot, the servant-girl made her appearance in such a state of agitation as to lead him to apprehend she was in a fit, and he ran for assistance to a chemist's close by, who directed him to Dr. Gammie, at Fort Pitt, surgeon of the 9th regiment. On his arrival she was found to have her throat cut, and by his directions was removed on a stretcher to Fort Pitt. In the course of the day she expressed a wish to make a statement, and Major Boys, a county magistrate, attended for the purpose of taking her deposition. What the nature of the disclosure made, if any, was, did not transpire. On a policeman entering the house, the girl said her mistress had been murdered in the cellar by two dustmen. On going into the cellar he found a pail full of water, with a flannel in it stained with blood, and which appeared to have been used in washing deceased's face. Close by he found a hatchet and a knife, both stained with blood; he observed blood on the floor, and the fagot wood

was also sprinkled with blood. On going up stairs he found Mrs. Bacon lying on her back inside the door on the second floor, and traces of blood from the cellar to where deceased lay, showing that the body had been dragged from the cellar to the spot where it was found. The skull was beaten in, there were two large gashes on the temple, and the face greatly disfigured from the blows which had been inflicted. The knife with which the girl's throat had been cut was found on the kitchen dresser, and there was a pool of blood just within the front door, where she had stood. She had been in the service of Mrs. Bacon for about seven weeks, having previously lived in service at Stroud, where her friends also reside. Mrs. Bacon was the widow of Mr. Bacon, formerly in her Majesty's dockyard, and was seventy-eight years of age. The servant-girl is about nineteen. A coroner's inquest has been held, and the jury have returned a verdict of wilful murder against Elizabeth Lawes, the servant-girl, who has been committed for trial.

The Irish Court of Chancery has been occupied with a case which has excited much public interest.—*Handcock v. Delacour*, otherwise De Burgh. It arose upon a petition filed by John Stratford Handcock, the heir-at-law of the late Miss Honoria Handcock, praying that certain charges created by the will of Josephine Handcock might not affect the Canentrilla estates; that a deed executed by Honoria Handcock in 1851 might be declared fraudulent and void; that an account might be taken of the sums which might be justly charged against Mrs. Catherine Josephine Handcock, and that certain judgments obtained by her against Honoria Handcock might be set aside as fraudulent and void. The story pertaining to the suit was told by the Attorney-General in opening the case for the petitioner, on the 24th January. In 1821, Mr. William Handcock, then just of age, and the possessor of 4000*l.* a year, married, against the consent of his relations, Miss Catherine Josephine Kelly, an ambitious beauty, who, with the assistance of the Marquis of Clanricarde, formed and executed the design of marrying Mr. Handcock. By the marriage-settlements, the estates were limited to the use of Mr. Handcock for life, with remainder to provide a jointure of 700*l.* a year to his wife, with remainder to the issue of the marriage. The issue were Josephine, Anne Mary, and Honoria. After the year 1828 there was no issue. In July 1840, Mr. Handcock, under the impression that an improper intimacy existed between his wife and Lord Clanricarde, separated from his wife and went abroad. Although this charge was distinctly put forward, Lord Clanricarde, in two affidavits he had made, carefully passed it by altogether; and from the affidavits he would seem to know next to nothing of this family. Lord Clanricarde seemed, indeed, to have some particular reason for not wishing to have been within the four seas in the latter part of 1840. He said it was impossible that he could have seen Mrs. Handcock throughout the year 1840, because he spent that winter in Russia: he might have done so, but the written documents placed it beyond a doubt that Mrs. Handcock was his guest at Portumna Castle in October 1840. "Some time in 1841 an infant appeared in the world; but nobody could tell where he was born, or who was his father." That infant was John Delacour, the minor respondent in this case. Lord Clanricarde was very precise on this point, and said he could state nothing as to the birth or parentage of John Delacour, and that Mrs. Handcock never stated or intimated to him who were the parents of John Delacour,—"perhaps the lady thought it quite unnecessary to give the noble marquis any information on that point." Mrs. Handcock and Lord Clanricarde appeared in France, where Mr. Handcock was living under the name of Captain Brown. In 1843 Mr. Handcock returned to England; and was found dying, in Michael's Road, Brompton, in charge of "a spy of Mrs. Handcock's." There Mr. Handcock was attended by Dr. Paris, Lord Clanricarde's physician, and the Reverend Mr. Irons. Lord Clanricarde swore that he had brought Mrs. Handcock and Josephine, her eldest daughter, to the death-bed of the dying man; which led to a reconciliation between the husband and wife, and created a friendly feeling in the father for his

daughters. Mr. Handcock had made a will in favour of his brother; but he was induced to make a new will, appointing the wife whom he had discarded the guardian of his daughters. Dr. Paris, pledged to keep secret the place of Mr. Handcock's abode, could not resist the appeal of his brother to see him; but the brother did not arrive until Mr. Handcock was dead. In 1843, Lord Clanricarde was appointed by the court guardian of the fortune of the Misses Handcock, although they had many relations of station and respectability. He made Mrs. Handcock an allowance of 1500*l.* a year for their support; and gave her the house at Canentrilla, rent-free, as a residence, and 600*l.* to furnish it. Here Mrs. Handcock lived in the greatest penury; stinting her daughters in money, in clothes, in food—"greater cruelty was never exercised by gaoler in the worst of times that this unnatural mother displayed towards her daughters." John Delacour, on the contrary, the "adopted" son of Mrs. Handcock, was indulged in every wish, and the girls were forced to do menial services for him. In 1846 and 1847 Josephine and Anne Mary came of age, and executed disentailing deeds; the grantee being Lord Clanricarde. In 1849 Anne Mary died; and the estates vesting in Josephine and Honoria, they executed disentailing deeds to Lord Clanricarde. In 1851 Josephine made a will, drawn by Lord Clanricarde, bequeathing 10,000*l.* to her mother in the event of her sister's marrying, but giving the whole estates to her mother if Honoria should die without issue. Josephine died shortly afterwards. It was proved that during the residence of the mother and her daughters in England, she treated them with the utmost harshness; that she told one lodging-house-keeper that John Delacour was the child of one of her daughters by a French gentleman of position; that Mrs. Handcock used to be visited by a gentleman called "Clan," and that he used to let himself into the house sometimes with a latch-key. The boy Delacour used to strike Honoria; and was heard to say to her, in the presence of her mother, "I wish you were dead." It was also shown that Mrs. Handcock drank brandy to excess; and one of the opposing counsel urged her drunken habits in extenuation of her cruelty. In 1853 Mrs. Handcock died: notwithstanding her affection of poverty, she died worth 20,000*l.*; and she bequeathed all her property to the boy, except 50*l.* as a legacy to her daughter. In December of the same year Honoria died intestate. Such was the plaintiff's case, as stated by his counsel. Mr. Serjeant O'Brien, for the executors under the will of Josephine contended that the allegations against Lord Clanricarde were unproved, and that no constraint had been put upon Josephine. He asserted that Lord Clanricarde had suggested the insertion of a revocation-clause in a deed executed by Honoria, but that she declined; that the girls were well treated, for had they not daily instruction in Italian and French? and were they not visited by Lord Dunkellin, Lord Mountcharles, and others? and that the inventory of their stock of clothes showed the charge to have been a misrepresentation. But he declined to attempt to justify Mrs. Handcock's unnatural conduct in saying that John Delacour was the son of one of her daughters. He admitted that the mother was anxious to get as much as possible for her child; but that did not nullify the deed. Mr. Martley, on behalf of the executors of Mrs. Handcock, contended that Miss Handcock perfectly understood what she was about in executing the deeds, and was perfectly satisfied that the estate should go to the minor Delacour. The arguments on both sides occupied several days. The Lord Chancellor, however, was not called upon to deliver judgment; for the parties agreed to a compromise, on the following terms. The petitioner Handcock, the heir-at-law, is to get the estates, on the condition that he shall pay to the respondent Delacour the sum of 20,000*l.* on his attaining full age, and in the mean time pay $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent on the amount. The respondent is now nearly fourteen years of age; and in the event of his dying before he reaches twenty-one, the petitioner will not have to pay the 20,000*l.*, but will have the estates free of any charge created in this matter save the payment of the interest. It is also agreed that the deeds and the will upon which the respondent founded his claim shall be cancelled. The

respondent being a minor and a ward of the Court, the sanction of the Lord Chancellor was necessary for the carrying out of the agreement; and on the 12th instant the Attorney-General stated in court the terms of the compromise, and prayed his lordship's sanction. The Lord Chancellor said, that having heard the terms stated, he had no hesitation in saying that he thought the arrangement was for the benefit of the minor. Assuming that there was no other question before the court in the matter, he was of opinion that it would be for the benefit of the minor to have the compromise carried into effect. The Attorney-General said, there was no other question before the court in the case. The Lord Chancellor—"My decision would be more unfavourable to the minor than the terms proposed. Supposing my opinion be unaffected by anything that may occur, I think the compromise is one that it will be for the benefit of the minor to carry into effect." The decree in both cases was accordingly taken.

The action brought by Mr. Adrian John Hope against the Count Aguado, to recover damages for *Criminal Conversation* with Mrs. Hope, partly heard at the sitting of the Court of Queen's Bench in December, was terminated on the 14th inst. A vast number of witnesses were examined on both sides; and the evidence extracted from them was commented on at great length by Sir Frederick Thesiger for the plaintiff, and by Attorney-General Cockburn for the defendant. The witnesses for the plaintiff spoke to the improprieties committed by Count Aguado and Mrs. Hope at Paris, Havre, and Folkestone. One alleged that he had frequently driven Mrs. Hope to meet Count Aguado at No. 3, Rue Monceaux, and at No. 20, Rue Labordais, near the Bois de Boulogne; another, specifying the rooms inhabited by the parties, said that he had witnessed the Count leave Mrs. Hope's room early in the morning in Frascati's Hotel at Havre; and a third, that, in 1850, she had seen the Count and Mrs. Hope bathe together in the sea. It was also alleged that during her stay at Folkestone, Mrs. Hope received Count Aguado in her husband's absence; that on one occasion, saying she was going to London, she went really to France; and that on a subsequent visit to Folkestone she engaged two rooms connected with each other by folding doors, and occupied one herself while the Count occupied the other. It was also sworn that the door was found broken open, and that the Count, while dressing, was seen to enter the room, where the lady was dressing also. These allegations were met by counter allegations, supported on oath by witnesses—that Count Aguado never did hire a room at 3, Rue Monceaux; that not he but his brother hired the house in the Rue Labordais; that during his stay at Frascati's the Count did not occupy the rooms specified by the witnesses as the scenes of improper familiarities; that Mrs. Hope could not swim, and therefore could not have bathed with Count Aguado. A respectable witness, Anne Rowse, however, deposed that her mistress began to learn to swim in 1846. It was stated that Mrs. Hope could not, as alleged by Mr. Howe, have met the Count by appointment at Reigate in 1848, because the Count was at that time in Italy. The Count's valet deposed, that when his master occupied the next room to that of Mrs. Hope at Folkestone in 1851, he did not quit him at all in the night, and the Count was ill; and that the folding doors were not opened. But this witness had previously deposed, in his affidavit, that the doors had been opened, and that he had passed through them. Several of the witnesses were obviously unworthy of credit; but there was nothing to shake the testimony of Anne Rowse, and she deposed that one morning in the summer of 1846, Mr. Hope having at the request of his wife gone out for a walk, the children having been likewise sent out, and Ann Rowse ordered down stairs, Count Aguado visited Mrs. Hope in her bedroom. In defence of his client, the Attorney-General dwelt much on the comparative ages of the parties in 1846—the Count being only twenty, and Mrs. Hope being twenty-eight; and he argued that it was absurd to suppose she could have been seduced by a mere boy. She was a lady fond of pleasure and extravagance; her husband was retired, fond of study, and penurious; hence arose irritation, unhappiness, and strife. He read long and painful

extracts from Mr. Hope's affidavits, which, together with those on the other side, showed that their married life had long been interrupted by scenes of strife, bickering, and blows. In summing up, Lord Campbell went carefully over the evidence; and pointed out several instances of concert and contrivance on the part of Mrs. Hope to place herself in communication with the Count,—such as the contrivances described by Ann Rowse; the sending of Young from Folkestone to Boulogne to fetch Count Aguado in the absence of Mr. Hope; the secret visit Mrs. Hope paid to Boulogne when she gave out that she was going to London. What could be the object of that concert, if it were not to carry on illicit intercourse? The jury instantly gave a verdict for the plaintiff—damages 200.

There have been serious *Bread Riots* in the East end of London. On the 21st and 22nd, several hundred dock labourers and other destitute persons, perambulated the principal thoroughfares in procession, demanding bread and money from the shopkeepers, whose premises were forcibly entered and ransacked of their contents. In several instances the tradesmen were subjected to gross acts of violence, and the most daring robberies committed in open daylight, and property to a considerable amount carried away by the mob. The alarm was so general that the shops were closed in High-street, Whitechapel, Commercial-road-east, Stepney, and the whole of the principal streets at the eastern portion of the metropolis, where business was generally suspended. A number of the rioters were arrested, and several of the ringleaders have been committed to the house of correction. There have been similar riots at Liverpool.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A *Destructive Fire* broke out on the night of the 16th inst., upon the premises of Messrs. Routledge, merchants and sawyers, in Holland-street, Blackfriars-road. The premises were entirely burnt down, and several adjoining dwelling and warehouses were much damaged. The loss is estimated at 150,000*l.* Mr. Jackson, the son-in-law of Superintendent Braidwood, a young man lately married, perished in the flames.

A fatal *Railway Accident* happened on the 22nd inst., on the joint line between Glasgow and Paisley, about 10 o'clock in the morning. The trains which had left Dumfries, Kilmarnock, and Ayr in the course of the morning had formed a junction, and had arrived within two miles of Glasgow, when a violent oscillation was felt in the carriages, and some of them were thrown off the line, but the train was ultimately brought to a standstill, and at this time no one was injured. It was found that the accident had been caused by the breaking of an axle in a first-class carriage, which was separated from the engine by a third-class and a luggage van. The passengers all got out in safety, and clambered up the bank, with the exception of those in a third-class, which was three carriages from the end of the train, and which had fallen upon the side from which the door opened, the other door being locked. The key, however, was ultimately obtained from the gnard, and the passengers were in the course of being extricated, when the Greenock train came up at a rapid pace and ran into the disabled carriages. The effects of the collision were tremendous. The three empty carriages behind from which the passengers had fortunately escaped, were smashed to atoms, or doubled over each other as if they had been boxes of paper. In the third-class, already referred to, an elderly woman, belonging to Kilmarnock, was killed on the spot; a young man named Kerr, also from the same place, had his arm broken. Mrs. Lennox, from Duntocher, received a severe wound on the head, and had her ankle bruised; and her son, a boy between eight and nine years of age, had his thigh bone broken. Several other passengers were hurt but not dangerously. The authorities are investigating the case.

A man has been *Frozen to Death* near Rochester. William Salmon, a married man with a large family, had been drinking pretty freely at a public house. His road home was across some open fields, where there was

no shelter, and all traces of the footpath were effaced. He was seen by some men who were passing that way, between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, to whom he observed that he could not get along. They thought he was joking, and, after persuading him to make another trial, left him. Early next morning his dead body was found near the spot.

Two boilermakers and two colliers have perished by *A Boiler-explosion* at a colliery in Darlaston. While one boiler was under repair, a second one burst. The cause is not ascertained.

The fine steamship *Mauritius*, of 1800 tons burden, belonging to the General Screw Shipping Navigation Company, was totally *Destroyed by Fire* in the Southampton Docks on the 16th.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen held a chapter of the Order of the Garter on the 13th instant, when the Earl of Carlisle, and the Earl of Ellesmere were elected Knights Companions of the Order. The Earl of Aberdeen already a Knight of the Thistle, was also elected to the Order of the Garter, retaining, by her Majesty's express command, the Order of the Thistle.

The Queen and court left Windsor for Buckingham Palace on the 15th instant. By command of the Queen, 32 of the Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards wounded at Alma, Inkermann, and in the trenches before Sebastopol, assembled at Buckingham Palace on the 20th instant, and were inspected by her Majesty, who was accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the colonel of the regiment. Her Majesty attended by the Lieutenant-Colonel, questioned every soldier about his wounds, and afterwards received from Mr. Brown, Surgeon-Major of the regiment, a report of the state of the invalids. The Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and Prince Arthur followed the Queen and Prince during the examination of the wounded men.

A deputation of the inhabitants of Enniskillen, with the Earl of Enniskillen at their head, have presented an address to Major Maude on the occasion of his return home from the Crimea.

The vestry of Marylebone have presented an address to Sir De Lacy Evans on his return from the Crimea. In reply, Sir De Lacy, after warmly thanking them, made some observations on public affairs. The present contest, he said, is even more momentous than that in which England engaged after the French revolution; and in all his military career he had never been more ardently employed. It was not his desire to touch upon political questions; but at the same time, he must say, he had lamented to see a man as Prime Minister, who, although he bore a most unexceptional character in other respects, was wholly and entirely unqualified to perform the duties of that office so as to insure a proper and energetic conduct of the war. It was therefore with no small amount of gratification that he found a change of government had taken place. He was not one of those who thought that any very great advantage would be obtained by the removal of the War Minister. He thought, amongst his class, there was to be found very few better men than the poor Duke of Newcastle, who, in Sir De Lacy's opinion, had been somewhat victimised. They had, however, now at the head of the government one whose energy was well known, and one to whom, he thought, it would be the duty of the parliament and the public to give their most cordial support.

The Lord Mayor had a great dinner at the Mansion House on the 6th inst., which was rendered remarkable by the presence and speeches of Sir Charles Napier and the Earl of Cardigan. Sir Charles began by contrasting his position with that of Lord Cardigan. If, he said, an officer who had performed prodigies of valour like his noble friend felt proud at his reception on that occasion, "how must I feel, who have returned from my command having hardly performed any service at all, and been censured by the government and dismissed from my command?" "I repeat," he said, when voices called "No, no!"—"Dismissed from my command!" It would be expected (he proceeded) that he should

give an account of the very small service performed by that magnificent fleet in the Baltic. It was magnificent "to a degree, but it was very badly manned and worse disciplined; but, however, we managed to take it to the Baltic without pilots, without charts, all the officers being perfectly unacquainted with that sea and the difficulties of its navigation, and we succeeded in getting there in perfect safety. Now, the first object I had in view was to endeavour, if possible, to satisfy the wishes of the people of this country. I was quite aware when I went there that not one-tenth part of what was expected could be performed; but nevertheless I was determined to do the best I possibly could." He described how he gave the Russians a chance by dividing his fleet in two, but they would not come out; how he found an attack upon Cronstadt impracticable; how he then went to Bomarsund. "I had written before to the English government, proposing to attack Bomarsund. I wanted no other troops to go there; I had troops enough; but the French Admiral thought it more proper to have some. The French government sent out ten thousand troops. I did not want them. They had much better have been employed at Sebastopol. I only asked for one or two thousand men, to make the thing more sure; but I could have done the thing without them; and I wrote home to that effect. However, the government sent out ten thousand. It is needless for me to say how quickly the thing was done. Bomarsund was taken in no time." Next he came to his treatment by the authorities at home. "I have been very much censured by the government. Great clamour has been raised against me, and instead of the government disowning that clamour, they have actually supported it." When it was known that the French army intended to return home, the government became dissatisfied and ordered a council of war. The whole subject was thoroughly considered by a marshal of France, a French admiral, a general of French engineers, and three British admirals; and they decided that nothing further could be done. The Admiralty listened to the advice of an officer of engineers, and ordered another council of war. The French general and admiral felt insulted by the proposal, and refused to join in such a step. "The government at home was not satisfied with that. The French general of engineers sent another report home, still more bare than the first; and it is unnecessary for me to say that we all concurred in condemning that opinion also; and the French army returned home; and I believe, and have no hesitation in saying, that had they gone up the Gulf of Finland again, instead of returning home, our fleet would have been totally lost." However, Sir Charles made another survey, and sent home a report. "At the moment it was reported that Sebastopol was taken, it was also asked 'Why does not Admiral Napier take St. Petersburg and Cronstadt?' and in fact it was asked, 'Why do you not go on and take Moscow?' Now, I did not expect that the Admiralty could join in that clamour. I say, I certainly never expected that they could be so mean and despicable as to join in that clamour, in order to bring odium upon a naval officer who had done the best in his power to bring honour and credit to his country. What did I do? I sent home a clear and detailed account to the Admiralty, stating to them my opinions, and what appliances were necessary in order to take Sveaborg. What did the Admiralty do? Now I mention this particularly and plainly, in order that there may be no mistake whatever, because, if the government have the least spirit about them, they will immediately discharge me and turn me out of the service. The Admiralty perverted my language. They not only did that, but they wrote to me the most goading letters they could possibly write: they asked me why I did not take Sveaborg, and do this, that, and the other. They received my letter, giving an account of how Sveaborg might be taken, on the 4th of October, the very day the reports reached this country of the taking of Sebastopol. On the 9th of October the news came that Sebastopol was not taken; but the Admiralty had not the plain straightforward dealing or the honesty to write and apologise to me; but they perverted what I had written, and which gave them a plan for the taking of Sveaborg.

I was not going to stand that. I am not the man to put up with an insult. I remonstrated most strongly; but, after all my remonstrances, the Admiralty persisted still in saying that I had led them astray. What could I do? I was not going to be driven into all this, particularly as Sir James Graham, during the whole time I was in the Baltic, had written to me calling upon me to beware of stone walls—not to risk her Majesty's fleet—that these stone walls were not to be trusted, and saying, 'When you were going to the Baltic, you were generally accused of want of discretion, but now you have proved yourself a consummate Commander-in-Chief.' After that came the most insulting and degrading letters ever addressed to an officer: and I mention this particularly, and I hope it will go throughout the world, and that Sir James Graham will be prevented from ever sitting again in the administration as first lord of the Admiralty. I state it to the public, and I wish it to be known, that, had I followed the advice of Sir James Graham, I should most inevitably have left the fleet behind me in the Baltic. I will prove it before all the world; and if Sir James Graham has one single bit of honour in him, he will never take his seat at the Admiralty until this matter is cleared up; and I have no right ever to be employed again, and I ought to be scratched off the navy list, if I am not telling the truth. I am taking the first opportunity, and perhaps the only one I may have, of making this statement publicly as I now do; and I am perfectly ready to answer for my conduct before the House of Commons, whenever they choose to call upon me to do so." The Earl of Cardigan's health was drunk with "three times three." In commencing a most interesting address, he spoke of his embarrassing position—many things weighed heavily on his mind. He not only recollects that he was there on account of a recent engagement in the Crimea; but he felt that it would be difficult to say anything about the war without touching upon some of those subjects now occupying the public mind and parliament. "I think you must clearly see that it would be by no means fitting or proper for me, in the situation which I hold—that of a high staff position in the army—to enter into that subject." He then gave an account of how he had been employed at the seat of war. "It was my good fortune, in the first instance, to be sent forward by the commander of the forces to the outposts with the light cavalry in the direction of the Danube. It was not well known where the Russians were at the time when the siege of Silistria was being carried on, and I was ordered to ascertain the position of their army and outposts. I had to patrol the whole of the country by detachments of troops under my command. I received a very peremptory order from head-quarters, by no means unsatisfactory to me, immediately to proceed with a strong body of cavalry to ascertain what had become of the Russian army; for the siege of Silistria had been raised, and the commander-in-chief was totally ignorant of whether the Russians were about to advance towards Varna, and attack our position, or retreat towards their own country. You can easily imagine that this was a somewhat anxious undertaking, and one that required considerable caution. We might have come at any moment upon the Russian army or its outposts. We travelled over the country, which I may call a perfectly wild desert, for three hundred miles. My orders were to proceed as far as Trajan's Wall or the confines of the Dobrutscha. We marched a hundred and twenty miles without ever seeing a human being, nor saw a single house in a state of repair, or inhabited, and not an animal to be seen except those which inhabit the wildest regions. Having ascertained that the Russian army had retreated by Babadagh, and having given the information to the commander-in-chief by means of my aide-de-camp, Captain Maxse, whom I sent back, I proceeded on a very interesting march, patrolling along the banks of the Danube to Rutschuk and Silistria, and returned from thence by that grand fortress Schumla, which has been often attacked, but never taken, it being in fact impregnable. Returning from those parts to Varna, then came the order to proceed to the Crimea. And here I must say that was a grand object, a noble undertaking, and worthy of the ambition of two great and

powerful nations. Immediately after landing in the Crimea, the person who has now the honour of addressing you was employed with a strong body of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, in endeavouring to cut off some Russian cavalry supposed to be marching to Simphopol. I am sorry to say I did not succeed, for I never could find the Russians. A few days afterwards came that glorious affair, the battle of the Alma. And here I must say that nothing, according to my humble judgment, could be so perfect as the preparations which were made by a great army for that attack. There was to be seen the advantage of the preparation that had been made for the attack. The columns of our infantry, which had previously marched in perfect order, instantly deployed into three lines and advanced down the hill, crossing and fording the river, and ascending the opposite side marched straight into the batteries on the heights, which appeared to be impregnable, and drove out at the point of the bayonet the Russian army of forty-five thousand men in the short space of two hours and a half. The arm of the force in which I served had not the honour of being engaged on that occasion in anything of importance. We had the advantage of sitting on our horses under a heavy fire for a long period, and in that position witnessed the glorious exploits of our brother soldiers. Soon after this was fought the battle of Balaklava; and, unfortunately, at the commencement of that battle, our allies the Turks disappeared from their position in a very short time, without carrying on any contest with the enemy. It was late in the afternoon when I received an order to attack the Russian forces in the valley, consisting of a long line of guns drawn up in the form of batteries. I received that order and I obeyed it. I delivered that order myself to the brigade under my command—I ordered it to march—I ordered it to advance—I ordered it to attack the Russians in the valley. But, my Lord, I must say this, that I should upon that occasion—it being my duty to give the order to the brigade, I did it, though I deeply regretted it at the time—I am sure, I say, I should have much more deeply regretted it afterwards, if anything had prevented my performing the rest of my duty, which was to share the danger with those brave men. Whatever danger those troops incurred, I shared it with them. We proceeded down and along a gradual descent of more than three-quarters of a mile, with the batteries vomiting forth shell, round and grape shot—a battery on the right, and a battery on the left flank, and all the intermediate ground covered with Russian riflemen; so that when we came down within a distance of fifty yards of the mouths of the artillery, we were truly and in fact surrounded and encircled by a blaze of fire, in addition to the fire from the riflemen upon our flanks. As we ascended the hill, the oblique fire of the artillery was brought to bear upon our rear. We had therefore a strong fire upon our front, our flanks, and our rear. We entered the battery—we went through the battery—the two leading regiments cutting down a great number of the Russian gunners. In two regiments which I had the honour to lead, every officer, with one exception, was either killed or wounded, or had his horse shot or wounded under him. Those regiments proceeded, followed by the second line, consisting of two more cavalry regiments, which continued to perform the duty of cutting down the Russian artillerists. Then came the third line, formed of another regiment, which was also employed in carrying out the duty assigned to the brigade. The result was that this body of about six hundred and seventy men succeeded in passing through the mass of Russian cavalry, which, as we have learned since, was five thousand two hundred strong, and having broken through that mass, they went, according to our technical expression, 'threes about,' and retired in the same way, doing as much execution in their course as they possibly could. Upon returning up the hill which we had descended in the attack, we had to run the same gauntlet, and to incur the same risk, from the flank fire of the tirailleurs which we had encountered in commencing the advance. Numbers of our men were shot down, men and horses were killed, and many of those brave soldiers who had lost their horses were shot down when endeavouring to make their escape. But what was the feeling, and what the bearing, of those

men who returned to the position? [Here Lord Cardigan appeared to be greatly affected, and shed tears.] Of each regiment engaged there returned but a small detachment—two-thirds of the men having been destroyed; and those men, when they arrived at the summit of the hill from whence they had commenced the attack a short time before, gave three hearty cheers of triumph and rejoicing at the exploit which they had performed. For they had ridden over a Russian battery, and attacked a most powerful body of Russian cavalry in its rear. It has been stated that the British cavalry is of a very inferior description, and that that body requires a thorough reform—that it is badly officered, being officered by gentlemen of too high a rank in the country—and that it ought to be better officered. I will only say this, that I do not think you will find any body of officers more careful of their men than those officers who now live, command, and perform their duties in the cavalry regiments of this country, or that you will find any regiments in the world where there is such a mutual and sincere attachment between the officers and men as exists in our cavalry. The officers are at all times perfectly ready to assist and attend to the comforts of their men. The men are so attached to their officers, that wherever those officers lead them, in the cause of honour and glory, those men are sure to follow. In conclusion, I will only say that in the minds of those who escaped the dangers of that attack there exist reflections of which they cannot divest themselves. I think that every man who was engaged in that affair at Balaklava, and who was fortunate enough to survive it, must feel that it was only by a merciful decree of Almighty Providence that he was saved from the greatest certainty of death which could by possibility be imagined." Lord Cardigan's speech was received throughout with enthusiastic cheers.

Mr. Archibald Prentice, formerly editor and proprietor of the '*Manchester Times*', has received a substantial testimonial of the respect of his friends for his public services during a period of thirty years, consisting of an investment of £1,500*l.*, the produce of a subscription amongst them, in a life annuity of £50*l.* for the lives of himself and Mrs. Prentice.

The Queen has appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Justin Sheil, C.B., some time her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Shah of Persia, to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, of the Order of the Bath.

The Earl of Dundonald, on the nomination of Prince Albert, has been elected an Honorary Elder Brother of the Trinity House.

Lord John Russell left his residence in Chesham-place on the 20th instant, for the purpose of proceeding on his diplomatic visit to Vienna.

At a Court of Directors, held at the India House on

the 7th instant, Major-General Sir Henry Somerset, K.C.B., was appointed Commander-in-chief of the East India Company's Forces on the Bombay Establishment, and Second Member of Council at that Presidency.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

Sir JOHN MUIR MACKENZIE, Bart., of Delvine, county of Perth, died on the 1st inst., in London, aged forty-nine.

Mr. O. SMITH, of the Adelphi Theatre, died on the 3rd inst.

Mr. FORBES, of Callendar, M.P., died at his seat, in Stirlingshire, on the 10th inst. This event will create a vacancy in the representation of that county, for which Mr. Forbes had been member for many years. Mr. Forbes was in his forty-ninth year.

Count de BRUHL, once famous as the principal antagonist of Philidor, the celebrated chess-player, died on the 6th inst., at his residence, Chingford, Essex, in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

KO-KREW PACHA, ex-Grand Vizier, chief of the Russian party in Turkey, has died at the age of ninety-five.

The Prussian General D'ASLER, the designer of the fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, opposite Coblenz, has died in Berlin.

General Viscount O'NEIL died on the 12th inst., at Seanes Castle, in the county of Antrim, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

A man named FAERICE LEPAGE has died in the neighbourhood of Berne, in his eighty-fifth year. He was cook to Robespierre, and under the Reign of Terror took the name of Coriolanus. He retired to Switzerland in 1816, and has remained there ever since.

At the Lunatic Asylum, Hoxton House, on 27th January, a woman, formerly a domestic servant, aged one hundred and three years. She had been twelve years a maniac.

The Duke of GENOA, only brother of the King of Saragossa, died at Turin on the 10th inst., aged thirty-two. He had been suffering from illness for some time.

Lady HARRIET ELLIOTT, the youngest daughter of Earl Minto, and sister of Lady John Russell, died on the 9th inst., after a protracted illness, at the Hotel Meurice, in Paris, in the twenty-ninth year of her age.

The Hon. General Sir PATRICK STUART, brother of the late Lord Blantyre, died on the 7th inst., at Eaglescarnie, Haddingtonshire, in the seventy-ninth year of his age.

General Sir W. C. EUSTACE, C.B., and K.C.H., died at Samford Hall, Essex, on the 8th inst., aged seventy-three.

Vice-Admiral BRIAN HODGSON died at his seat in Cumberland on the 7th inst., in his seventy-fifth year.

Mr. PRYSE LOVELL, M.P. for the Cardigan District Boroughs, died on the 1st inst., aged thirty-nine.

Mr. J. H. VIVIAN, M.P. for Swansea, died, after a few days' illness, at his residence, Singleton, near Swansea, on the 10th inst., in his seventieth year.

The Rev. G. FLETCHER, a Wesleyan Minister, who was born on Feb. 2, 1747, at Clarbroul in Nottinghamshire, died on the 2nd inst., at the extraordinary age of one hundred and eight.

M. VARNAVAS PANGALOS, the eldest of the patriots who struggled for the independence of Greece, and one of those who sacrificed a large fortune to the cause, has just died at Athens, at the still more remarkable age of one hundred and eleven years.

Mr. JOSEPH HUXE died on the 20th inst., at his seat, Burnley Hall, Norfolk, in the seventy-ninth year of his age.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE Overland Mail brings dates from *Bombay* to the 16th ult. The most important news is the despatch by the overland route of the first reinforcements from India to the army in the Crimea. The first division of the 10th Hussars left *Bombay* on the 10th of January on board the "Punjaub" and "Sultana." The remainder of the regiment were to sail in about ten days. Altogether they will muster 650 sabres. The 14th Dragoons, equally strong, were also on their way to *Bombay* to embark for the Crimea via *Suez*. The Christmas festivities at *Calcutta* were of the most magnificent kind, in honour of the visits of the Burmese Ambassador, and the Rajah of Putteala. When the entertainments had been brought to a close, the Burmese Envoy had an interview with his Excellency to take leave on his return to *Ava*. As is usual on these occasions certain ceremonies were gone through, when to the great surprise of the Governor-General, the Burmese Ambassador announced, "That he came by the command of the King of *Ava* to seek restitution of the whole of the captured provinces in *Burmah*!" This modest demand was at

once met by his Excellency in the following brief but pertinent reply—"Tell the King of *Ava* that as long as the sun shines in the heavens the British flag shall wave over their possessions." This soon brought the interview to a termination, and the representatives retired. The Rajah of Putteala, who is the chief of the largest of the five protected Sikh States, intends to visit England, attended by a numerous suite, where he, no doubt, will create a great sensation.

The intelligence from *China* is unfavourable for the rebels. The *Pekin Gazette* states that they have recently been defeated in many encounters, and that several important cities have been retaken from them. There was a large British and American force at *Canton* assembled to protect the foreign residents in case of an assault by the rebels.

Advices from *Melbourne* down to the 23rd November state that Sir Charles Hotham had given the royal

assent to the Convict Prevention Bill, under which convicts with conditional pardons are prohibited all entrance into Victoria. It will be remembered that a similar bill has been already disallowed by the Imperial Government. In consequence of abuses which have crept into the administration of every branch of government, Sir Charles Hotham has issued commissions of inquiry into the finances, the police, the gold-fields, and the squatting question. The estimates for the year, laid before the Legislative Council on the 23rd, had

astonished the public. A sanguine estimate of revenue for 1855 places it at 3,015,683/. The expenditure is put down at 4,801,292/; the deficiency being 1,785,609/. There was general impression two years ago that the attractions of the gold-fields would deprive the wool-growers of labour to an extent to cause a very considerable decrease in the production of wool. This fear has not been realised; for the quantity exported has increased from 21,765,104 pounds in 1853 to 22,598,688 in 1854.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE Siege of Sebastopol progresses slowly. The following despatches have been received from Lord Raglan:—

" Before Sebastopol, Jan. 13th.

" The weather continues very severe, and to-day it blows a gale of wind, with drifting snow. Although I have not received the official report from the officer commanding the 4th Division, the officer of the Quarter-master-General's department, whose duty it is to visit the advanced posts at daylight, has brought in an account of a sortie made by the Russians in the course of last night upon our right and left attack, the enemy advancing, under protection of a heavy cannonade, along the Woronzow road and the ravine on our extreme left. The enemy succeeded in driving in the troops in the advanced trench, which was not re-occupied until the reserves were brought forward from the second parallel. A party in pits on the right of the advanced trench, consisting of one sergeant and thirteen rank and file, are missing, and one officer and thirty-six privates are stated to be wounded. The time for the despatch of the mail being at hand, I am very sorry that I shall not be able to send your Grace to-day a more accurate statement of this affair.

" I enclose a return of casualties between the 8th and 11th.

" Great progress is making in disembarking and issuing to the troops vast quantities of warm clothing of all descriptions, and I believe I may assert that every man in this army has received a second blanket, a Jersey frock, flannel drawers, and socks, and some kind of winter coat, in addition to the ordinary great coat. The provision of fuel is still a great difficulty. Every effort is making, and with tolerable success, in landing and putting up the huts; their great weight (two and a half tons each) is a serious obstacle to their conveyance to the camp, with our limited transport. Each hut requires three stripped artillery waggons, with from eight to ten horses each, or 180 men. Much sickness continues to prevail."

" Jan. 23:—Nothing has occurred of importance in our front; but the enemy has occasionally opened a fire upon our left attack, and Mr. Spalding, a fine young man, an acting mate of her Majesty's ship London, and in charge of the battery, was unfortunately killed by a round shot the day before yesterday. His loss is deeply deplored. I enclose the return of casualties to the 21st instant.

" The weather has become milder; but the country is in a dreadful state from melted snow. The army is well supplied with warm clothing; and if the commissariat were adequately provided with transport, and the huts could be at once brought up, there would be no other cause of suffering than the severity of a Crimean winter, and the duties imposed of carrying on a siege in such a climate at this season of the year."

" Jan. 27:—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Grace that the weather continues fine. There are severe frosts at night; but the sun shines brightly through the day, and there is an absence of wind, which, whilst it continued, added considerably to the sufferings of the troops. Every exertion is making, by public transport and individually, in getting huts up; but this is a most difficult operation, and the ground is still so rotten that it is most arduous labour to pass along it. The extremely confined space of Balaklava, and the vast accumulation of stores, has obliged me to erect huts at

some distance outside the town for their reception. I enclose the list of casualties to the 25th instant inclusive."

In a further despatch, dated the 3rd instant, Lord Raglan says that "Nothing has occurred in front of the British lines" since the 27th of January. In front of the French lines, however, there had been some stir, for Lord Raglan goes on to say:—

" Before daylight, on the morning of the 1st, the enemy made a vigorous sortie on the most advanced works of the French right; they were repulsed, after a sharp contest, in the most gallant manner by our ally, who, however, sustained some loss."

The rest of Lord Raglan's despatch is as follows:—

" The weather, which had latterly been fine, broke yesterday; and, after a rainy evening, there was a fall of snow during the night, and there is again a frost, with an exceedingly cold wind. The materials for the railway continue to arrive, but I fear it will not be possible for me to supply the amount of military labour which Mr. Beatty would seem to require. Nearly 200 Croatians, who were hired at Constantinople, have arrived, and been handed over to him, and more are expected, and, as a matter of experiment, I have obtained 400 Tartars from Eupatoria."

On the 6th of February Lord Raglan writes as follows:—

" I mentioned to your Grace on Saturday that the weather had broken. The frost was very severe on that night, and the thermometer down at 13, and the wind was very high and piercingly cold. Sunday was rather milder, and yesterday was fine. To-day the glass has fallen and there is every appearance of rain. I am happy to state that the medical officers consider that the general condition of the men has improved, although apparently there is no diminution in the number of the sick."

" The enemy has made no movement of importance, but great convoys of waggon have been observed to go into Sebastopol, laden either with ammunition or provisions. I enclose the casualties to the 4th instant. Lieutenant-Colonel Collingwood Dickson, of the Royal Artillery, an excellent officer, whom I have before had occasion to bring to your notice, was slightly wounded on the 4th inst., when making a reconnaissance in company with some French officers."

The following despatch has been received from Sir Edward Lyons, dated January 27th:—

" Sir—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that since my last general letter of the 23d inst. (No. 60), the weather has been particularly fine. The health of the army has been much benefited by the change. A good deal of progress has been made in putting the troops, and distributing the clothing which has been so liberally sent out from England; so that the men express themselves as being comfortable. The health of the fleet and of the naval brigade is excellent. The men are well supplied with fresh meat and vegetables, and also with oranges sent from Malta by Rear-Admiral Stewart. The fire from the batteries of the allies has increased during the last week, and that of the enemy has not slackened. New guns have been mounted in our batteries during the last four days. On the 24th inst. I passed the day at Balaklava to superintend the service going on there, and to make inquiries and examine into matters connected with the duties of the port and the transport service. I met Lord Raglan there, by appoint-

ment ; and we made some arrangements, which will, I trust, have a beneficial effect.—I have, &c.,—E. C. LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief."

The private letters from the army continue to give gloomy account of official mal-administration ; of the sufferings, disease, and mortality among the troops. The state of the army, however, is described as improving, the weather having become milder, and supplies of necessaries and comforts having been received. The following are specimens of these communications :

Correspondent of the *Daily News*, January 22nd :—

"A few of the huts are being erected in camp. They have been brought up from Balaklava wholly by the exertions of individual regiments. In some instances the commanding officer has sent in the men in large bodies as large as could be spared from their duties in the trenches, and each man has returned with one or two planks ; hat horses assisting in bringing up the heavier parts. There are thirty-three horse-loads to each hut. Many of the regiments have not yet been able to get up a hut, the men having been employed in bringing up clothing, blankets, or rations ; and from the third division, on the extreme left of the camp before Sebastopol, to the second division on the extreme right, no regiment, as yet, has got more than two huts in course of construction. Very little of the warm outer clothing has yet been issued ; but the mild weather which has prevailed the last few days has rendered this of less importance. Buffalo robes have been given out for use in the tents. It is a matter of regret that the huts have not been sooner erected, if only for the preservation of these and other valuable articles issued to the men. It is almost impossible amidst the mud and damp of the tent ground, to take such care of these things as their value demands. On the partial wooden flooring of the huts their protection could be easily arranged. The huts for the officers have not yet arrived, nor has the warm clothing intended for the officers. Officers, however, have been permitted, by application at the Quarter-master-General's office, to obtain articles of the soldiers' warm clothing instead of those expected for themselves, when desirous of doing so. The commissariat officers have not yet been able to obtain a sufficient number of transport animals to enable them to supply the regiments in camp with complete rations of food or rum ; nor have they yet been able to comply with the general order desiring them to furnish the troops with rations of charcoal or other fuel and light. The troops quartered near Balaklava have been so far fortunate that they have been [able, by their nearness to the port, to avail themselves of the abundant supplies in store there.]"

Correspondent of *Morning Chronicle*, Jan. 25 :—"I am sorry to be unable to report any better news as to the sanitary condition of our own troops. The everywhere-abounding slush which followed the thaw has, I need hardly say, not added to their comforts, and dysentery was rather on the increase than otherwise. Everything, however, that official care and energy could accomplish was being done to reduce the discomforts to a minimum ; and if the improvement in the weather which has now set in here extend northwards, Balaklava and its neighbourhood will, before the present month is out, be the scene of much less physical wretchedness than has unfortunately fallen to the lot of the allied army hitherto."

From a French officer :—"The English army is no longer an army ; it only bears the name. Of the 56,000 men which the British Government sent to the East, there remains at this moment not more than 10,000 to 11,000 ; and even those are not all able to carry arms. I must add, that there are, moreover, about 10,000 in the hospitals of Constantinople, and 1000 in the ambulances at Balaklava ; the remainder are gone to their long home. A sad result of the two principal vices in the English army : the officers, with few exceptions, have forgotten how to conduct a campaign, and the administration for the supply of provisions is absolutely null."

The *Times* correspondent, on Jan. 22, says : "Desertions have taken place to the enemy both from the French and from our own ranks ; but there is a great disposition to exaggerate them. The deserters from the

French have generally belonged to the Foreign Legion ; the deserters from the English have generally been from the young draughts and from regiments just sent out. I have already mentioned the case of a man in the 93rd, who was killed by the enemy as he approached their pickets, in the act of desertion. A soldier of the 19th was since killed by his own comrades as he was escaping to the Russians from the third parallel. He had hinted to one of his friends in the same company that it would be a good thing to go over to the Russians. His suggestion was received by a threat, 'If you attempt to run, I'll shoot you, as sure as you are a living man.' The fellow watched his opportunity, and, slipping across the parapet, made towards the Russian lines ; but his friend had perceived the man and called on his comrades to fire. They did so, and missed him ; and he neared the Russian picket. 'Here goes for you now, according to promise,' exclaimed his Achates ; and, taking a long aim, he stopped the career of the deserter, and dropped him, writhing and bleeding, in front of the Russian videttes."

The same correspondent, on Jan. 23, describes the management of the Medical Department : "A circumstance occurred in Balaklava to-day which I will state for the calm consideration of the public at home, without one single word of comment. The *Charity*, an iron screw-steamer, is at present in harbour for the reception of sick British soldiers, who are under the charge of a British medical officer. That officer went on shore to-day, and made an application to the officer in charge of the government stoves, for two or three to put on board the ship to warm the men. 'Three of my men,' said he, 'died last night from choleraic symptoms, brought on in their present state from the extreme cold of the ship, and I fear more will follow them from the same cause.' 'Oh !' said the guardian of the stoves, 'you must make your requisition in due form, send it up to head-quarters, and get it signed properly, and returned ; and then I will let you have the stoves.' 'But my men may die meantime.' 'I can't help that ; I must have the requisition.' 'It is my firm belief that there are men now in a dangerous state whom another night will certainly kill.' 'I really can do nothing ; I must have a requisition properly signed before I can give one of these stoves away.' 'For God's sake, then, lend me some ; I'll be responsible for their safety.' 'I really can do nothing of the kind.' 'But, consider, this requisition will take time to be filled up and signed, and meantime these poor fellows will go.' 'I cannot help that.' 'I'll be responsible for anything you do.' 'Oh, no, that can't be done !' 'Will a requisition signed by the P. M. O. of this place be of any use ?' 'No.' 'Will it answer if he takes on himself the responsibility ?' 'Certainly not.' The surgeon went off in sorrow and disgust. Such are the 'rules' of the service in the hands of incapable and callous men. But here is a special fact for Dr. Smith, the head of the British Army Medical Department. A surgeon of a regiment stationed on the cliff above Balaklava, who has about 40 sick out of 200 men, has been applying to the authorities in the town for the last three weeks for medicines, all simple and essential, and cannot get one of them. The list he sent in was returned with the observation, 'We have none of these medicines in store.' To-day this poor surgeon, too, came down with his last appeal : 'Do, I beseech you, give me any medicine you have for diarrhoea.' 'We haven't any.' 'Anything you may have I'll take.' 'We haven't any.' 'Have you any medicine for fever you could give ? Anything you can let me have I'll take.' 'We haven't any.' 'I have a good many cases of rheumatism among my men : can you let me have any medicines for them ?' 'We haven't any.' Thus, for fever, rheumatism, and diarrhoea, the most prevalent complaints of the army, there were no specifics whatever ; and the surgeon returned up the hill-side with the bitter reflection that he could give no aid to the unfortunate men under his care. Can any one of the facts I have stated be denied ? Certainly not by any one who regards the truth, and who is not a shameless utterer of falsehoods."

The *Times* correspondent, on Jan. 20, speaks of Lord Raglan :—"The visit of Lord Raglan to Balaklava last Thursday seems to have had considerable effect in im-

proving the state of the place. Men are at work throwing stones down into the most Curtius-like gulfs in the streets. His lordship visited the hospitals in the town, and conversed with Dr. Anderson for some time. He then went to Commissary-General Filder's, where he remained in conversation nearly two hours. It is stated by people who can know very little of what passed, that his lordship considers Mr. Filder has deceived him, and has at various times misrepresented the nature and magnitude of the means at his disposal, otherwise steps would have been taken to place our transport on a better footing. Mr. Filder can, however, point to some important letters, written both before and after the 14th of November to Lord Raglan, on the subject of transport and of the roads, in which he is understood to have declared he could not be responsible for the evils and misfortunes which might befall the army, if the important matters to which he called attention were neglected."

The correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, on Jan. 23rd, describes the amount of sickness:—"Advantage has been taken of the change of weather to get up considerable stores of provisions at the mid-way dépôt; and a large quantity of ammunition has also been forwarded. But in spite of full rations and the change in the weather, sickness is still terribly prevalent among all our troops; and I think the number invalided this week will be rather over than under 2000 men, thus making a total of 5000 in twelve days."

The same writer, in another letter, enters into fuller details on this painful topic:—"Our men are now feeling the effects of the cruel privations which all underwent from the latter part of November almost to the beginning of this week. An awful proportion of sickness and mortality prevails. It is not enough to say that our men are sick and that many die, but it literally seems as if the army was melting away day by day. That this is no exaggerated statement your readers will readily believe when I tell them that I am informed on good authority, that between the 1st December, 1854, and the 20th January, 1855, no less than 7,804 officers and men were invalided at Scutari. This number, of course, does not include either the men sick in hospital at Balaklava, or those treated at camp in the various regimental hospital tents. It is simply the number of men actually sent out of the Crimea. But, enormous as this amount of sickness may appear at first sight, it is really less than that which I was led to anticipate from seeing the condition of the men in the various regiments and divisions. For instance, I know that the Guards landed here upwards of 3000 strong, and I know that they have received reinforcements of nearly 6000 men since they arrived at Balaklava. Yet I know also that they have lost 986 men and officers since Inkermann, and that yesterday their whole effective strength was 738 men. The Guards, in fact, are but remnant, a mere shadow, of one of the finest brigades which ever entered a field of battle. In single regiments the loss appears to be something far beyond comprehension. The 23rd, I am told, buried thirty-five men at camp within one week. The 28th have merely a nominal existence, and the 63rd have ceased to have even that. The gallant 46th are reduced to some seventy or eighty men, and the 89th are almost as bad. In fact, I believe there is not one regiment at this moment in camp which musters 100 men, and there are not many which could turn out 200. The mounted staff corps, about which so much fuss was made in London, have quite disappeared for these three weeks past. I am told there are only nine here now. In this state of things, and with an army so reduced that I should almost fear to state its numbers, how can anyone feel elated at the prospect before us? We have fine weather, it is true, but no amount of fine weather will ever take Sebastopol, and until that end is accomplished the English troops must suffer more or less."

A non-commissioned officer of the 90th Light Infantry, writing from the camp before Sebastopol, on 19th Jan., to a friend in Glasgow, says:—"To tell you the truth, the beggar that wanders about the streets is better off than the British soldier in the Crimea. Winter has set in, the snow is about four feet deep, and we have received none of the winter clothing the papers say we have got, except four extra great-coats for a company,

instead of one to each man; and as for rations, we are on half—that is, half a pound of meat and biscuit, and half a gill of rum per diem, and a little raw coffee. That is the British soldier's fare for a day, and even that we can't get cooked—no wood to be got. I cannot describe our miseries. When we are off duty, we have nothing to shelter us but the tent, which lets in everything—wind, rain, and snow, often knee-deep in mud—in which to lie down and rest our weary bones, after doing duty in the trenches, with only twelve hours off at a time. Our regiment left Dublin 890 strong, and, with deaths and sickness, we are now only 230. Other regiments are worse. Still, those who are left of us bare up bravely; we try to keep our spirits up, hoping for better days to come. Our neighbours, the French, are much better off than we are; they get their pay, and have canteens in all their camps, where they sell brandy, tea, sugar, bread, tobacco, &c. We could purchase of them, too, but, unfortunately, we have no money, so we are done. The battle of Inkermann was fought on our side of the Tchernaya, about two miles from where our regiment is encamped. There are a number of dead Russians still lying about, but nobody takes notice of them. As for Lord Raglan, I have certainly seen him since I came here; but I suppose if you were to ask some of the soldiers how they liked him, they would ask you who he was. Sebastopol stands as strong as ever, and will do till we take it by storm, which ought to have been done long ago. We have got scarcely a battery. On our 21-guns battery there are only three available guns."

An officer of the 3rd division writes as follows on the 27th January:—"Nothing is talked of out here but peace as a certainty. I am no believer of it myself, and a crying shame would it be to our arms if peace were declared and Sebastopol not fall. The only thing I can say is that it is not the fault of the soldiers that Sebastopol was not in our possession in September, 1854, and we should have lost fewer, far fewer, brave men than we have done. Sebastopol, in September, was not fertilised on the south side; it is now, I suppose, the strongest place in the world. It is the 'fashion' of our engineers to laugh at the enemy's works; I can only say, I wish we had Russian engineers, instead of those we have; you never hear a Frenchman say anything but in admiration of the enemy's works, which are beautifully finished. When fire is opened, the enemy will open, say three to one guns in proportion to us. Six weeks ago an order was issued for a new battery on the left of our second parallel; but nothing has been done to the said battery, and we shall not open fire any nearer than the first day. Our engineers are, I really believe, afraid to go nearer the place. The French very justly grumble at us; their arrangements are perfection. We have no arrangement in any department, and how can it be otherwise? Look over the names in the Adjutant and Quartermaster-General's departments; interest and not the qualities of a soldier get these appointments. I grant you there are some exceptions; for instance, the best officer out here is Major Wetherall, late of the 1st Royals, and now of the Scotch Fusilier Guards. He is a business man, and at the same time a first-rate soldier. It is very annoying to read the deliberate falsehoods in the houses of parliament,—the Duke of Newcastle denying that the men had ever had anything but full rations, and that green coffee was ever issued to them; this alone they get, and but few attempt to use it; but many a time they have had but half rations of biscuit and their grog, and during the frost many a man ate his ration of pork raw, and I have no doubt will soon have to do so again, for we must expect frost, and have no fuel. I firmly believe that almost everything that could be required has been sent out here, but nothing is to be got at."

The correspondent of the *Times* describes the appearance of a number of sick and dying men who were sent to Balaklava, on the 25th of January:—

"They formed one of the most ghastly processions that ever poet imagined. Many of these men were all but dead. With closed eyes, open mouths, and ghastly attenuated faces, they were borne along two and two, the thin stream of breath, visible in the frosty air, alone showing they were still alive. One figure was a horror—a corpse, stone-dead, strapped upright in its seat, its

legs hanging stiffly down, the eyes staring wide open, the teeth set on the protruding tongue, the head and body nodding with frightful mockery of life at each stride of the mule over the broken road. No doubt the man had died on his way down to the harbour. As the apparition passed, the only remarks the soldiers made were such as this.—‘There’s one poor fellow out of pain, any way!’ Another man I saw with the raw flesh and skin hanging from his fingers, the naked bones of which protruded into the cold air, undressed and uncovered. This was a case of frost-bite, I presume. Possibly the hand had been dressed, but the bandages might have dropped off. All the sick in the mule-litters seemed alike on the verge of the grave.’

The latest intelligence from Sebastopol is contained in the following despatch from Lord Itaglan, dated the 10th instant:—

“I have nothing material or important to report to your Grace since I addressed you on the 6th. There was rain yesterday and the day before, and in the course of last night there was a considerable fall of snow, which remains on the ground; but it does not freeze, and the country is again saturated with wet. It is reported from the front that great activity prevails in the town and harbour of Sebastopol. Large convoys of apparently sick men were observed to be moving out of the place, and numerous carts, with one horse, to be coming in. The enemy appear to be breaking up hulks in the Arsenal Creek, and to be using the material for platforms and *chevaux de frise* at the ‘battery du Mat.’

“We are proceeding with the armament of the works on the right. The health of the troops continues to improve in some slight degree. They are amply supplied with warm clothing, and with provisions. Forage is our only want, and this arises chiefly from the Commissary-General not receiving from England the supplies of hay upon which he has reckoned.”

Omer Pacha has defeated the Russians at Eupatoria. The Russians attacked that place on the morning of the 17th inst. They were commanded by Liprandi; and their numbers were 20,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry. They commenced the attack an hour before daybreak, and

had with them seventy guns. The conflict lasted three hours. The assault was signally repulsed. The steamers threw shells among the assailants. The Russians lost 300 men, the Turks 150. Omer Pacha commanded in person. Selim Pacha, the Egyptian, was killed.

The Emperor of Russia has promulgated an ukase, ordaining the formation of a general militia of the empire. This document is characterised, as usual, by a canting affectation of piety.

Accounts from *Turin* state that the treaty of alliance between the Western Powers and Sardinia was adopted by the legislative chamber on the 8th instant. The majority in its favour was 101 to 60.—The Duke of Genoa, brother of the King of Sardinia, died on the 11th instant; the third death in the house of Savoy within a few weeks. He was two years younger than the king. He married in 1850, the Princess Elizabeth, second daughter of the present King of Saxony; by whom he had the Princess Maria Theresa, born in 1851, and Prince Thomas Albert Victor, born last year. The Princess Elizabeth, thus left a widow, is only twenty-five years of age.

Gratifying accounts have been received from the interesting community of *Pitcairn's Island*; letters having been addressed at the end of October last by the Rev. G. H. Nobbs and John Adams, the son of the original settler, to the Bishop of London, Sir Thomas Acland, and the Rev. T. B. Murray. By these letters it appears that the number of inhabitants had increased from 172, the last census, to 200, all except three having been born on the island. These three are Messrs. Nobbs, Buffett, and Evans. The islanders were well, and, though not in want of food, had some anxieties arising from their augmented population. They had heard “rumours of wars” through some American whalers touching at Pitcairn's. John Adams bears high testimony to the character of their pastor, of whom he says, “His whole aim seems to be directed to one object—that of doing good to his flock, both in spiritual and temporal things.”

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE past month's list of new publications is the scantiest we have had since the war set in; but it presents some few books of considerable general interest. It comprises a volume of travel and adventure in California, by Mr. Frank Marryat, called *Mountains and Molehills; or, Recollections of a Burnt Journal*; a new volume of reprinted *Essays from the Edinburgh Review*, by Mr. Henry Rogers; a new novel, *Mammon, or, the Hardships of an Heiress*, by Mrs. Gore; a brief record of a *Summer Tour*, by Mr. Barrow; a romance by no less notable a romancer than his Eminence Cardinal Wiseman, *Fabiola; or, the Church of the Catacombs*; a collection of *Pictures of Palestine, Asia Minor, Sicily, and Spain*, by an American traveller; the first volume of *Thomson*, in Mr. Parker's annotated edition of the Poets; a welcome republication, with a preface by Mr. Henry Reeve, of Ambassador White-locke's curious and valuable *Journal of the Swedish Embassy in 1653 and 1654*; a reproduction in a library form, from the pages of the New Monthly Magazine, of Sheil's *Sketches Legal and Political*, with notes by Mr. Savage; the *Literary Life and Correspondence of the Countess of Blessington*, by Mr. Madden; a bulky little volume of antiquarian anecdote, and varied miscellaneous reading, called *Curiosities of London*, by Mr. John Timbs; the first volume of a collection of Lord Brougham's writings, revised by himself with much apparent care, containing *Lives of the Philosophers of the Reign of George III.*; a reprint of a discreditable book, by Mr. Henry Wilcock, *My Courtship and its Consequences; a Handbook of French Literature, among the publications of the Messrs. Chambers; a History of Woman*, by Mr. S. W. Fullom; a study in English Literature, consisting of the *First Four Books of Milton's*

Paradise Lost, with notes for the use of scholars; the volume for 1854 of Mr. Bogue's *Year Book of Facts in Science and Art*; a volume of *Oxford Essays*, contributed by members of the university; a translation from a book descriptive of *Moslem* and *Christian*, partly fact and partly fiction, by a Polish officer now in the service of the Sultan; a *Manual of Political Science*, by Dr. Humphreys; a descriptive essay on *The Bulgarian, the Turk, and the German*, by Mr. A. A. Paton; an American biography of a well-known American editor, the *Life of Horace Greeley* of the *New York Tribune*, by Mr. J. Parton; another transatlantic book, a condensed alphabetical account of notable duels in various countries, and especially in America, called *Notes on Duels and Duelling*, with a preliminary essay by Mr. Sabine; five instructive lectures on our language and its changes by the Reverend R. C. Trench, called *English Past and Present*; a valuable *Memoir of Sir Robert Strange, Engraver, and of his brother-in-law, Andrew Lumisden*, by Mr. Dennis-toun of Dennistoun, to which the melancholy interest attaches of having issued from the press on the very day of its author's death; a useful school *Guide to the Mythology of Ancient Greece*, by the Rev. Dr. Brewer; an essay by Mr. Thomas Wright, on *Early Christianity in Arabic*; a condensed translation, by Mr. David Jardine, of Baron Müffling's *Narrative of my Mission from Constantinople to St. Petersburg in 1829-30*; a translation, by the Rev. O. F. Owen, of the recently discovered *Refutation of Spinoza*, by Leibnitz; and the fifth volume, containing the philosophical essays with several important additions, of Sir William Hamilton's edition of the *Works of Dugald Stewart*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 17th inst., £12,980,786.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz.	£3 17 9	Silver bars, stan., per oz.	5 1 <i>½</i>
Do., dust,	3 16 0	Mexican dollars,	5 0 <i>½</i>

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0.38 prem.	New York	0.33 diset.
Hamburg	0.06 prem.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 5 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	91 <i>½</i>	90 <i>½</i>	91 <i>½</i>
Three per Cent. Reduced	92	90 <i>½</i>	91 <i>½</i>
New Three per Cents	92 <i>½</i>	91 <i>½</i>	91 <i>½</i>
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4 <i>½</i>	4 <i>½</i>	—
Bank Stock, S per cent.	21 <i>½</i>	21 <i>½</i>	21 <i>½</i>
Exchequer Bills, June	9 <i>½</i>	4 <i>½</i>	6 <i>½</i> p.
India Bonds	12 <i>½</i> p.	11 <i>½</i> p.	12 <i>½</i> p.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	107	96 <i>½</i>	97 <i>½</i>	33,362
all	Blackwall	8 <i>½</i>	S	8 <i>½</i>	4,117
100	Caledonian	62 <i>½</i>	61 <i>½</i>	61 <i>½</i>	43,368
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	57	55	56 <i>½</i>	17,023
all	Eastern Counties	11 <i>½</i>	10 <i>½</i>	11 <i>½</i>	72,780
Gt. Sm. Wn. (Irel.)	92	90	90 <i>½</i>	22,169	
Great Northern	91	88 <i>½</i>	89 <i>½</i>	65,440	
100	Great Western	67 <i>½</i>	64 <i>½</i>	65 <i>½</i>	79,802
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	75 <i>½</i>	74 <i>½</i>	74 <i>½</i>	70,639
100	London & N. Westn.	107	99 <i>½</i>	100 <i>½</i>	177,755
100	London & S. Westn.	36 <i>½</i>	34	35 <i>½</i>	41,318
100	Midland	70	68 <i>½</i>	69 <i>½</i>	94,177
100	South-East. & Dover	60	58 <i>½</i>	58 <i>½</i>	48,661

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.

RAILWAYS.

Belgian 4 <i>½</i> per cent. 92-4	East Belgian Junct. 1-1 <i>½</i>
Brazilian 5 per cent., 100-1	Great Luxembourg, 2 <i>½</i>
Chilian 6 per cent., 102-4	Northern of France, 35 <i>½</i> -7
Danish 5 per cent., 102-4	Norwegian Trunk Prefs. 82-9 <i>½</i>
Dutch 2 <i>½</i> per cent., 61-2	Paris and Orleans, 45-7
Dutch 4 p. cent., cert., 92-4	Paris and Lyons, 41
Mexican 3 per cent., 20 <i>½</i> -1 <i>½</i>	West Flanders, 3 <i>½</i> -4
Pernvian 3 per cent., 49-51	West of France, 6-7 pm.
Portuguese 4 per cent., 41-3	Rouen and Havre, 22-4
Russian 5 per cent., 98-100	
Spanish 3 per cent., 36-4	
Sardinian 5 per cent., 84-6	

MINES.

Linares	7 <i>½</i>	Quartz Rock	1 <i>½</i>
Nouveau Monde	4 <i>½</i>	St. John Del Rey	29-31

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.

BANKS.

Australian	3-11 dis.	Australasian	81 to 82
Do. Frobfield	1 <i>½</i> -1 <i>¾</i>	Eng. Scott. and Austr. 15 <i>½</i>	
Colonial Gold	3 <i>½</i> -4 <i>½</i>	Ind. Austr. and China	
Port Philip	8 <i>½</i> -9 <i>½</i>	Lond. Chart. of Aust. 20 <i>½</i>	
South Australian	1 <i>½</i> -1 <i>¾</i>	South Australian	3 <i>½</i> -10

RAILWAYS.

East Indian	14 <i>½</i> prmn.	Australasian Pacific	7 <i>½</i>
Do. Extension 3 <i>½</i> -1 <i>¾</i>	"	Australian Royal Mail 63 <i>½</i>	
Indian Peninsula	par-1 <i>½</i>	Eastern Steam Navv.	
Madras	4 dis.	General Screw St. Ship 15 <i>½</i>	

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural 30-1		North Brit. Australian 2 <i>½</i>	
Van Diemen's Land 12 <i>½</i> -13		Peel River Land	2 <i>½</i> -3
South Australian Land 35		Scottish Austr. Invest. 1 <i>½</i>	

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Jan. 27	69 0	32 2	26 8	43 2	44 6	41 8
Feb. 3	70 11	32 2	26 7	42 9	44 2	43 0
— 10	71 1	32 6	26 2	42 1	43 9	40 5
— 17	70 3	31 9	25 7	45 3	43 1	41 0

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

Malt, Pale, per qr.	s. d.	Malting Barley	s. d.	Hay.... per load	s. d.	l. s.	l. s.
64 to 72		31 - 32	32 - 33	3 to 4	15		
		32 - 33	30 - 31	4	15		
		30 - 31	29 - 30	5	10		
		29 - 30	28 - 29	1	10		
		28 - 29	27 - 28	7	10		
		27 - 28	26 - 27	11 <i>½</i>	15		
		26 - 27	25 - 26	12 <i>½</i>	15		
		25 - 26	24 - 25	13 <i>½</i>	15		
		24 - 25	23 - 24	14 <i>½</i>	15		
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		21 - 22	20 - 21	17 <i>½</i>	15		
		20 - 21	19 - 20	18 <i>½</i>	15		
		19 - 20	18 - 19	19 <i>½</i>	15		
		18 - 19	17 - 18	20 <i>½</i>	15		
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		16 - 17	15 - 16	22 <i>½</i>	15		
		15 - 16	14 - 15	23 <i>½</i>	15		
		14 - 15	13 - 14	24 <i>½</i>	15		
		13 - 14	12 - 13	25 <i>½</i>	15		
		12 - 13	11 - 12	26 <i>½</i>	15		
		11 - 12	10 - 11	27 <i>½</i>	15		
		10 - 11	9 - 10	28 <i>½</i>	15		
		9 - 10	8 - 9	29 <i>½</i>	15		
		8 - 9	7 - 8	30 <i>½</i>	15		
		7 - 8	6 - 7	31 <i>½</i>	15		
		6 - 7	5 - 6	32 <i>½</i>	15		
		5 - 6	4 - 5	33 <i>½</i>	15		
		4 - 5	3 - 4	34 <i>½</i>	15		
		3 - 4	2 - 3	35 <i>½</i>	15		
		2 - 3	1 - 2	36 <i>½</i>	15		
		1 - 2	0 - 1	37 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	38 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	39 <i>½</i>	15		
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		0 - 1	0 - 1	41 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	42 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	43 <i>½</i>	15		
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		0 - 1	0 - 1	99 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	100 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	101 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	102 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	103 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	104 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	105 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	106 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	107 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	108 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	109 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	110 <i>½</i>	15		
		0 - 1	0 - 1	111 <i>½</i>	15		

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.] FROM THE 27TH FEBRUARY TO THE 28TH MARCH. [PRICE 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Thursday, March 1, Earl GRANVILLE, in reply to the Earl of Carnarvon, said that the loyal *Addresses from the Colonies Respecting the War* had been brought under the notice of the Queen, and had received most gracious answers.

On Friday, March 2, the Earl of CLARENDON informed the house of the *Death of the Emperor of Russia*. He said,—My lords, I feel it my duty to communicate to your lordships the contents of a telegraphic despatch I received half-an-hour ago from her Majesty's minister at the Hague. It is as follows—"The Emperor Nicholas died this morning, at one o'clock, of pulmonic apoplexy, after an attack of influenza." I have also received a despatch from her Majesty's minister at Berlin, stating that the Emperor of Russia died at twelve o'clock. About an hour before these despatches arrived, I received accounts from Berlin, from my noble friend Lord John Russell, in which he stated that the emperor was on the point of death, and had already taken leave of his family. I apprehend, my lords, although this event occurred so short a time ago as between twelve and one o'clock this morning, that there can be no doubt as to its authenticity. Under these circumstances, as this unexpected event must exercise so important and immediate an influence on the war, on the negotiations for peace that are now going on, and possibly on the policy of Russia, I think my noble friend will agree with me that it might be attended with much inconvenience if he brought forward his motion this evening. I therefore trust that he will not, on public grounds, object to the request I take the liberty of making.—Lord LYNDHURST at once assented, saying—After the statement of my noble friend, it is impossible that I can proceed with my motion: but I shall not withdraw it, I shall only postpone it. Unless I find, as the result of the negotiations said to be going on at Berlin, that the Prussian court accedes to the treaty of the 2nd of December, or to an equivalent treaty with France and this country, I shall bring forward the motion of which I have given notice, on a future occasion.

The Earl of LUCAN Brought His Case Before the House, by reading the correspondence respecting his recall at considerable length, but without any comment.

On Monday, March 5, Lord MONTFAGLE, in moving for correspondence respecting *Education in India*, called attention to the minutes recently issued by the late president of the Board of Control. The object of his remarks was to show that the natives will be subjected to great disadvantages under the new system of testing the proficiency of candidates for the civil service by marks.—The motion was agreed to.

On Tuesday, March 6, the Earl of LUCAN again Brought his Case Before the House. He read the following despatch from Lord Raglan, which he complained, had not been laid on the table before, and of the existence of which he had not been aware:—

"Before Sebastopol, Dec. 16, 1854.

"My Lord Duke—I regret to be under the necessity of forwarding to your grace the copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan. When I received it I placed it in the hands of Brigadier-General Airey, the quartermaster general, and requested him to suggest to his lordship to withdraw the communication, considering that it would not lead to his advantage in the slightest degree; but,

Lord Lucan having declined to take the step recommended, I have but one course to pursue—that of laying the letter before your grace, and submitting to you such observations upon it as I am bound in justice to myself to put you in possession of. Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan complains that in my despatch to your grace of the 28th of October, I stated that, 'from some misconception of the instruction to advance, the lieutenant-general considered that he was bound to attack at all hazards.' His lordship conceives this statement to be a grave charge, and an imputation reflecting seriously upon his professional character, and he deems it to be incumbent upon him to state the facts, which he cannot doubt must clear him from what he respectfully submits is altogether unmerited. He has referred to my despatch, and, far from being willing to alter one word of it, I am prepared to declare that not only did the lieutenant-general misconceive the written instruction that was sent him, but that there was nothing in that instruction which called on him to attack at all hazards, or to undertake the operation which led to such a brilliant display of gallantry on the part of the light brigade, and, unhappily, at the same time occasioned such lamentable casualties in every regiment composing it. In his lordship's letter he is wholly silent with respect to a previous order which had been sent him. He merely says that the cavalry was formed to support an intended movement of the infantry. That previous order was in the following words:—'The cavalry to advance and take advantage of any opportunity to recover the heights. They will be supported by infantry, which has been ordered to advance on two fronts.' This order did not seem to me to have been attended to, and therefore it was that the instruction by Captain Nolan was forwarded to him. Lord Lucan must have read the first order with very little attention, for he now states that cavalry was formed to support the infantry, whereas he was told by brigadier-general Airey 'that the cavalry was to advance and take advantage of any opportunity to recover the heights, and that they would be supported by infantry'—not that they were to support the infantry; and so little had he sought to do as he had been directed, that he had no men in advance of his main body, made no attempt to regain the heights, and was so little informed of the position of the enemy, that he asked Captain Nolan 'where and what he was to attack, as neither enemy nor guns were in sight.' This, your grace will observe, is the lieutenant-general's own admission. The result of his inattention to the first order was, that it never occurred to him that the second was connected with, and a repetition of the first. He viewed it only as a positive order to attack at all hazards (the word 'attack,' be it observed, was not made use of in general Airey's note) an unknown enemy, whose position, numbers, and composition he was wholly unacquainted with, and whom, in consequence of a previous order, he had taken no step whatever to watch. I undoubtedly had no intention that he should make such an attack—there was nothing in the instruction to require it—and therefore I conceive I was fully justified in stating to your grace what was the exact truth—that the charge arose from the misconception of an order for the advance, which Lord Lucan considered obliged him to attack at all hazards. I wish I could say, my lord

duke, that, having decided against his conviction to make the movement, he did all he could to render it as little perilous as possible. This, indeed, is far from being the case, in my judgment. He was told that the horse artillery might accompany the cavalry. He did not bring it up. He was informed that the French cavalry was on his left. He did not invite their co-operation. He had the whole of the heavy cavalry at his disposal. He mentions having brought up only two regiments in support, and he omits all those precautions either from want of due consideration or from the supposition that the unseen enemy was not in such great force as he apprehended, notwithstanding that he was warned of it by Lord Cardigan after the latter had received the order to attack. I am much concerned, my lord duke, to have to submit these observations to your grace. I entertain no wish to disparage the Earl of Lucan in your opinion, or to cast a slur upon his professional reputation; but, having been accused by his lordship of having stated of him what was unmerited in my despatch, I have felt obliged to enter into the subject and trouble your grace at more length than I could have wished in vindication of a report to your grace in which I had strictly confined myself to that which I knew to be true. I had indulged in no observations whatever, or in any expressions which could be viewed either as harsh or in any way grating to the feelings of his lordship. I have, &c., RAGLAN."

Lord Lucan concluded by moving for the production of all the correspondence between the military authorities and himself, which was agreed to.

On Friday, March 9, Lord ST. LEONARDS remarked upon the defects that existed in the present system of convict management, especially as regarded the *Liberation of Prisoners with Tickets of Leave*. He inquired whether any better scheme was under preparation by the government.—Earl GRANVILLE confessed that the system now pursued had somewhat disappointed the expectations formed of it. There were, he urged, many difficulties in the way of finding a fitting destination for convicts whom it was not considered right to retain in prison. Attention was carefully bestowed by the government to the subject, and every improvement it was found possible to introduce would be readily adopted.—Earl GREY censured the practice of encouraging policemen to follow released convicts and prevent their obtaining employment. He recommended the government to send a large number of convicts to Western Australia and other available colonies.—The Lord CHANCELLOR recognised the abstract advantages of the system of transportation, which had been discontinued only in deference to the feeling of the colonists. With respect to the tickets of leave, he contended that the experiment had, on the whole, proved successful, and a large number of convicts had become honest members of society.

On Monday, March 12, the Earl of LUCAN read two letters on the subject of his *Application for a Court-martial*. The first, from the adjutant-general, was a repetition of Lord Hardinge's refusal to grant his request. The second was Lord Lucan's reply. He moved that these papers be produced by the government.—Lord PANMURE said that the government concurred in opinion with the commander-in-chief, but that he was ready to produce the papers moved for.

On Thursday, March 15, Earl GREY inquired respecting the system of *Purchasing Commissions in the Army*, and confessed his reluctance to inaugurate any sudden change in the existing practice, but declared his conviction that the present mode of obtaining admission to the army could not endure much longer. Alluding especially to the purchase of first commissions, he inquired what system was followed by the government in granting commissions without purchase, and dwelt upon the necessity of ascertaining the talent and capacity of the candidates who were thus favoured.—Lord PANMURE replied that the selection of officers for commissions without purchase was made, first, from the cadets who had achieved distinction at Sandhurst Military College; secondly, from the sons of military officers who had performed distinguished services; and thirdly, from the sons of poor clergymen. Should these classes of candidates prove insufficient, recourse was had to the general

list of applicants, who were selected, upon proof of their individual fitness, according to the order in which their names stood on the list. Many commissions, he added, had lately been given to this class, the eligible age being also extended from eighteen to twenty-two years, on account of the great demand for officers at present.

On Monday, March 19, the Earl of LUCAN moved for copies of some reports and correspondence respecting the *Charge of the Light Cavalry Brigade at the Action of Balaclava*. He detailed with much minuteness the proceedings of that day, and the tenor of the orders he had received from Lord Raglan, contending that these orders, together with the positions of the various English and French corps at the time, left him entirely without discretion to decline or delay their execution. He commented upon the letters that had subsequently passed between himself, the commander-in-chief, and the war-office, which had terminated in his (Lord Lucan's) recall from the Crimea, and vindicated throughout the whole series of transactions. He concluded by renewing his demand for a court-martial, before which he might prove his case.—After a few words from the Earl of CARDIGAN, Lord PANMURE explained that the reason why Lord Lucan had been recalled arose from no doubt of his professional ability, but from discrepancies which rendered his continued service under Lord Raglan inexpedient. The request for a court-martial he continued to think unprecedented, and saw no reason to make an exception in the present instance.—Viscount HARDINGE added some further explanation of the course adopted by the war-office towards Lord Lucan.—The Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Newcastle, and the Earl of Hardwicke, briefly spoke, and the Earl of Lucan having replied, the motion was agreed to.

On Tuesday, March 20, Lord LYNDHURST called attention to the *Present Position of Prussia with regard to the War* and the negotiations now in progress at Vienna. He discussed the subject at great length, in a speech so full of matter that it does not admit of abridgement. After premising that the aggressions of Russia, especially with respect to the navigation of the Danube, had seriously imperilled the interests of every Germanic nation, he traced the conduct of the Prussian government throughout the whole period that had elapsed since the invasion of the Principalities by the late Czar. This conduct, he declared, evinced a degree of servility and vacillation which destroyed all possibility of placing faith in the professions of Prussia. The government of that country had always subserved Russian interests, and seemed to be guided by Russian inspiration. Acquitting the Prussian nation of any complicity in the policy of their rulers, he exhorted the British ministers to pursue their course, whether of war or diplomacy, in perfect independence of Prussia.—The Earl of CLARENDON confessed that the charge of vacillation and timidity might justly be alleged against the Prussian government. He declared that Prussia had not been admitted as a party in the proceedings of the Vienna conference, although he did not apprehend that all hope was lost of inducing that country to become a firm and active member of the alliance against Russia, a result to which considerations for her honour and interest alike pointed.

On Friday March 23rd, Earl GRANVILLE brought up a royal message, communicating to the house the tenor of the recent *Convention with the King of Sardinia*.

Lord BROUHAM laid on the table a series of resolutions in reference to *Criminal Procedure*, which he supported by some prolonged comments upon the existing system and possible improvements of criminal jurisprudence in this country.—The LORD CHANCELLOR having added some observations on the subject, their lordships adjourned at a quarter-past seven o'clock.

On Monday, March 26th, an address in reply to the royal message respecting the *Convention with Sardinia* was moved by the Earl of CLARENDON, who briefly recapitulated the heads of the treaty in question, and pointed out the advantages which it secured to the Allied Powers in carrying on the war against Russia.—After a few words of concurrence and congratulation

from the Earl of HARDWICKE and the Earl of SHAFESBURY, the address was agreed to.

The Earl of HARDWICKE presented a petition respecting the *Postal Arrangements with Australia*.

Lord CANNING observed that the government intended to re-establish a line of intercommunication by means of steamers with Australia.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Monday, February 26, *New Writs were moved* for in the room of members who had accepted office in the new administration. When Mr. Hayter moved the new writ for London, Lord John Russell having accepted the office of colonial secretary, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON inquired when Lord John Russell will return from Vienna, and whether an under-secretary for the colonies had been appointed? Colonial questions of great interest are pending; there are gentlemen from Victoria and New South Wales waiting in London to transact business; and the absence of the colonial minister is very inconvenient. To this Mr. Roebuck added, that there was a gentleman in town from Newfoundland, seeking neither more nor less than the removal of the governor: he had waited on three Colonial Ministers; should he attend on Lord John Russell, that would be the fourth.—Lord PALMERSTON said, that Lord John Russell had accepted the office of colonial secretary, but Sir George Grey had undertaken that no inconvenience should attend his temporary absence. The under-secretary had not yet been named. He could not say when Lord John would return, but he had no reason for supposing, whatever way the negotiations might terminate, that his absence would be so protracted as Sir John Pakington seemed to think.

Before the house went into Committee of Supply, Mr. W. S. LINDSAY made a statement of the results of his recent observations in France respecting the *Conduct of the War*. He found the war minister was a plain man, who thoroughly understood his business. On the wall was a large map, with moveable coloured patches representing the armies of Europe, so that at all times, by moving the patches he possessed an exact knowledge of the positions of troops. The minister readily replied to all his questions as to the quantity of stores at different dépôts, and seemed to know where everything was. On further inquiry, he found the system pursued in that country was very simple. There were five directors—one of transport, another of infantry, a third of cavalry, a fourth of the commissariat, and a fifth the nature of which Mr. Lindsay had forgotten. Under these directors there were twenty or twenty-five heads of departments in the various districts of the country, whose duty it was to send an accurate report daily of the state of the departments under their charge. They had the transports, the stores, and the army under their charge. Those gentlemen, on receiving reports, summed them up; and the five gentlemen every morning waited on the minister of war, who entered these condensed reports in a small book, from which he was able to give Mr. Lindsay the information he sought for. That appeared to be a simple plan; it had worked well with an army of 750,000 men, and why should not some such system be adopted here? It is time (said Mr. Lindsay) to apply the knife to the stupid redtapery that encumbers our institutions. Look at the transport service. There are, according to the returns, 220,000 tons of shipping attending upon 25,000 men; but since that return was made 30,000 additional tons have been added, and there are quite 100,000 tons besides the regular transports—in all, 350,000 tons of shipping waiting upon 25,000 men. Now with that amount of shipping, by an orderly system of lines, constantly employed, he would undertake to convey both the British and French force in the Crimea and all their stores. He strongly objected to the proposed Transport Board, and recommended that Captain Milne should be placed at the head of the transport service.—Mr. G. DUNDAS referred to special cases of mismanagement in the transport service. In one case, a ship was hired to convey stores, and among them some strong acids, which it was thought advisable to place on deck: but when the ship dropped down the river to take in the acids, somebody said, “Why there

is a large quantity of acids already in the hold!” It was so; and the ship had to be unladen and reloaded.—Admiral BERKELEY denied that the whole of the tonnage employed by the government was in the service of 25,000 men; it was employed in the service of the French and Turkish as well as the British forces—or 100,000, instead of 25,000 men.—In reply to several members, Mr. PEEL said that he could give the house little fresh information. In the Transport Corps there will be one responsible head, to see that what is proper to be done is done at the right time and place. Although the number of drivers will consist of 8000 men, all these will not be raised at once, but that will be the permanent strength of the corps. With respect to medicines, and quinine especially, more has been sent than can be consumed. At the present moment, a commission, consisting of three officers, one Engineer officer, and one Artillery officer, are inquiring at Paris into the state of the French army: and he was glad to be able to state that the French government are affording them every assistance in prosecuting the inquiry.

In committee on the *Army Estimates*, votes were agreed to of £14,984, for general staff officers of hospitals; of £153,588*L*, for allowances to officers of the public departments; 17,795*L*, for the Royal Military College; 23,367*L*, for the Royal Military Asylum and Hibernian Military Schools; 85,000*L* for Volunteer Corps; 3,813,383*L*, for the Embodied Militia; 22,000*L* for rewards for distinguished military service.

In answer to questions respecting the *Militia*, Lord PALMERSTON said that there is no intention of resorting to the ballot at present.

On Wednesday, Feb. 28, the Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of the *Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill*. He repeated at great length the reasons which call for the bill, and explained its provisions; which he had already explained on several occasions. The bill vests in the Estate Commissioners the management of Episcopal and Capitular estates; proposes to empower them to enfranchise the property of the chapters, and to pay fixed incomes to the bishops.—Mr. H. G. LIDDELL moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months; he described the bill as a stepping-stone to a direct attack upon church property.—Mr. HEADLAM seconded the amendment. As no minister was present, Mr. H. T. LIDDELL moved the adjournment of the debate.—Upon this Sir BENJAMIN HALL, empowered by Sir George Grey, stated that the government was anxious that the second reading should be agreed to, and the committee should be postponed until the report of the Cathedral Commission had been received and considered. Mr. Liddell consented to withdraw his motion for the adjournment; but Mr. Hadfield and Mr. Thomas Duncombe objected, and the debate continued. Mr. Cowper, Mr. Henley, Mr. Wigram, Lord Robert Grosvenor supported, and Mr. R. Phillimore, Mr. Mowbray, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, Mr. L. Heyworth, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Miall, and Sir John Duckworth, declared themselves against the second reading. A division was first taken on the motion for the adjournment of the debate; which was negatived by 102 to 71. Next the house divided on the second reading, and it was carried by 102 to 66. The committee was fixed for the 23d May.

On Thursday, March 1, Lord GODERICH moved an address to her Majesty respecting the present system of *Promotion in the Army*. Under the peculiar circumstances of our army in the Crimea, he observed, and when the people were asking what was the cause of the evils which had befallen it, the house, he thought, would not grudge the time occupied in the discussion of a question relating to the efficiency of that army. The earnest demand of the people, and their just requirement, was that the government should act upon a principle applicable to all offices—namely, that that man only should be appointed to an office who was the best fitted to fill it; and it could hardly be argued that this principle had been adopted in the present system of military promotion—a system which had never been established by law, and which involved not only anomalies but injustice. He should confine himself, he said, to a part of the question—namely, to the manner in which the existing system affected the great mass of

the army—the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, between whom and the commissioned officers a gulf was fixed which it was difficult for the former to pass. The general fact was notorious that the principle of the Horse Guards was not to hold out to the private soldier any hope that merit would receive the honour of promotion to the rank of a commissioned officer. Since the 1st of October last 521 commissions in the army had been filled up by the Horse Guards, of which 150 had been obtained by purchase, and 371 had been given away; and of this number 266 had been given to "gents," 39 to officers of the militia, and 66 to sergeants promoted from the ranks. If this was the principle followed, he asked the house to consider whether it was just; whether it was not expedient to introduce a change in the system; and whether such a change would not beneficially affect the recruiting of the army, its intelligence, its morality, and its military efficiency. The change could be made at the present time, which was peculiarly favourable for it, and it could be effected without injustice to purchasers. His objection to what had been done already was, that it had not been done on any system, but as a matter of pure favour. It had been said that non-commissioned officers did not like to be promoted; no doubt, if only one sergeant in a regiment was advanced; but that was the very reason why he asked that the change should be systematic, whereby we should promote the efficiency of our army and do justice to brave men.—Mr. F. PEEL observed that the system under which commissions were obtained in the army by purchase might be, as Lord Goderich had represented, faulty in principle and defective in theory; but it could not in truth be said that in its actual working it had operated injuriously to the interest of the country or to the discredit of the English army. Lord Goderich had failed to show in what way the system was unjust to the private soldier, and how it impeded the disposition to enlist in our service. His (Mr. Peel's) opinion was that, if the advancement of the private soldier to commissions was to be systematic the system now prevailing must give way; the two could not co-exist; so that the question affected the whole system of advancement by purchase in the army. Mr. Peel explained the system as it now existed and the principle upon which commissions were given to non-commissioned officers, pointing out the advantages incidental to the sale and purchase of commissions in comparison with a system of advancement by seniority; he thought the house should hesitate before it assented to the address.—Lord LOVAINE opposed the motion, considering that Lord Goderich had advanced no reason that would justify a change of system, though he admitted that the present system was not perfect.—Mr. OTWAY, after replying to Lord Lovaine, argued that the present system acted injuriously to the private soldier, because it rendered the nominal boon of a commission no boon at all.—Colonel SIRTHORPE objected to a change of system, wishing to leave "well" alone.—Mr. Warner spoke in favour of the motion, as well as Captain SCOBELL, who characterised the purchasing of promotions in the army as shopkeeping mode of getting on in a profession.—Sir J. WALSH contended that our regimental system, as it was, worked well; that it had been tried, and for the last half century had shown an indisputable superiority over that of every other nation in Europe.—Lord SEYMOUR observed that the object of Lord Goderich was, that vacancies should be given almost invariably to privates in the army. The effects of this would be, that ensigns would be, not young officers, but old ones, and whereas it was desirable that young men should be brought into the army who had passed good examinations, a well-instructed class of officers could not be expected from the ranks. Then, how could merit be discovered in time of peace? Unless we had seniority, we should have favouritism if purchase were prohibited, which did not necessarily exclude good qualification. He objected to the motion because it trifled with the whole question and misled the house, for the opponents of the system of purchase had not suggested any substitute.—Mr. J. BALL denied that Lord Goderich proposed that the great majority of the commissioned officers should be made up from the ranks; his proposition was, that an honourable

career should be opened to private soldiers by affording them some certain prospect of promotion.—Lord ELCHO said, there appeared to him no reasonable objection to the former part of the motion, except that it was unnecessary; for the moment chosen for it was when nearly one hundred commissions had been given to non-commissioned officers. With regard to the latter part of the motion, he could not agree that the system was injurious to the public service and unjust to the private soldier, and he objected further that to call upon the house to affirm an abstract proposition might embarrass it, and likewise cause disappointment. He defended the practical result of the present system, and attributed the outcry raised against it to the feeling out of doors on the subject of the occurrences in the Crimea.—Sir DE LACY EVANS (who was received with loud cheers from both sides of the house) condemned the present system as a plan for facilitating favouritism, which ought no longer to be tolerated. He did not complain of the aristocracy and the gentry being in the army; he wished to see them there in greater numbers than the commonalty; but then the system of promotion by purchase advanced the former class to the disadvantage of the latter. It was almost impossible for the sons of gentry to rise in the army. "Look," said Sir De Lacy, "at my own position. We are beaten by time. We are kept back until we are worn out. Those who have more friends get up to the higher ranks of the army, but if there is a question of selecting some one for the command of a corps, or an army, the answer is, 'Oh! such a man is not of such a class' and 'Don't talk to us of him.' When the hon. gentleman tells us that 50 or 100 commissions were appointed to the army in the Crimea, and when he impresses this upon us as a great economy, that by the sale of these 50 or 100 commissions all ulterior expense to the country will be avoided, I really think he is putting the question on a very low and inferior ground, and takes in truth a most discreditable view of the subject. Because men have 400*l.* or 500*l.* are they to be put over the heads of all those non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, and especially those non-commissioned officers who are bearing with exemplary patience and fortitude, those dangers, toils, and difficulties in the Crimea? Are all these men to be set aside because 50,000*l.* can be made of it? This is false economy altogether. If this be a good thing, you are bound to carry it out in all institutions. You have no alternative. We are, however, gradually approaching an amelioration of the system, notwithstanding; for I find it laid down that, at all events, officers of the army must be gentry. There was a time when it was contended that they must be all nobility. There have been good officers of all classes. Some of the armies on the continent require their officers to have ten or twelve quarterings of nobility. Princes have also become great officers, nobles have become great officers, and so have the gentry; but let us compare the number of great officers which have arisen in countries where the highest classes have obtained the highest commands, with the number of great officers which have appeared in other countries—for instance, at the period of revolutions, when all classes have had a free scope for the development of their talents. You have fifty in one case to one in the other. In France a number of great officers arose at the time of the revolution, but it so happened that we had one who was superior to them all—but that had nothing to do with the question. Compare the number, then, when there was a free scope given to talent. In the time of Louis XIV., there were great commanders, no doubt, but we had a greater commander than all his. Our own revolution was political rather than military, but still there was a gentleman of great power and position, Mr. Oliver Cromwell. Sir De Lacy continued by reminding the house that education alone was not sufficient to make an officer, and that the system of examination which was now so much relied on would, in many cases, prove an utter delusion. But even in matters of education the mass of the population had made wonderful advances. The army which he had in Spain some twenty years ago, collected under the most unfavourable circumstances, showed a far higher degree of morality than the Duke of Wellington's army in the Peninsular war; while, as

regarded the army now in the Crimea, there was hardly anything like a crime committed. He admitted that the system ought to be changed gradually, but he hoped the government would take the matter up with an earnest desire to put the service upon a proper footing. It did not, indeed, matter much in time of peace what the system was, but it was in time of war that the evil was felt, and he had no hesitation in saying that not only had campaigns been unluckily commenced, but that wars had been indefinitely prolonged, through the incapacity of the generals selected. With regard to Sergeant Sullivan, he held that the authorities had committed a gross mistake in the matter. As a general of division, and still more as commanding on the spot, he held that he was entitled to have his recommendation attended to, especially as Sullivan was of excellent character, and had distinguished himself before at the battle of Alma. He held that in this case a direct professional affront—un-intentional he was sure—had been put upon himself.—Mr. S. HERBERT observed that the debate had travelled out of the motion. The house had been discussing, not the ease of private soldiers, but what should be the rule of promotion in the army. He thought it was an advantage that non-commissioned officers should be promoted, but not because they were non-commissioned officers. The only rational rule for promoting any man was *detur digniori*. Then the question was, were we to have a strong educational test for officers, or to take men because they were privates or non-commissioned officers, and dispense with all examination? This consideration must, for a time at least, limit the admission of non-commissioned officers to commissions. He acknowledged that it was for the advantage of the army that there should be pretty frequent admissions from the ranks; but he objected to laying down a fixed rule which would lead to a system of class promotion. Then was promotion to be by purchase, seniority, or merit? He admitted that much might be said against purchase; but serious inconveniences would attend its abolition. Seniority, as a rule, was objected to and was objectionable, and selections according to merit was liable to abuse. So that when the question of purchase was looked at it must be regarded with reference to what was to be substituted for it. He contrasted the military system of this country with the system of France and of Russia, and argued that we could not lay down a fixed rule as to the number of men to be promoted from the rank; so that it was a question, not of principle, but of degree. He was confident that the increase in the number of these promotions would go on, and that the increased education of the army would justify its continuance; but he asked the house not to sanction indiscriminate promotion.—Lord PALMERSTON said it was impossible to deny that this subject was one of great importance and of great interest—important as it regarded one of the great institutions of the country in which rested its defence, its dignity, and honour; interesting because it concerned all classes of the community. One of the arguments of Lord Goderich was that the present system discouraged recruiting for the army; but this was not the fact; recruiting never went on so successfully. The question of the purchase and sale of commissions was surrounded with difficulties. If we were forming our army for the first time, no man would think of making commissions matter of sale, but it was another thing to deal with a system which had long existed; for he believed that this was the remnant of an ancient system not peculiar to the army. Abstractedly, it was an evil; but, as in many other instances, it was not unaccompanied by certain countervailing advantages. The change involved considerations of great magnitude, as well as great expense to the country. Therefore he was not prepared to say that the government could consent to this sort of off-hand resolution. It was a great mistake to suppose that by the purchase and sale of commissions they were put up to auction and sold to the highest bidder. The commander-in-chief exercised the same discretion in selecting men permitted to purchase commissions as he did when they were given without purchase. With respect to the promotion of non-commissioned officers,

he thought the line pursued by Mr. S. Herbert ought to be, and it would continue to be, followed. He thought it was desirable to hold out to privates and non-commissioned officers that good conduct and bravery would earn the reward of a commission, and he was satisfied that by increased education there would always be a considerable number of sergeants fitted to receive commissions. This being the case, he hoped Lord Goderich would not divide the house, which might give an erroneous impression to the public that on the main principle there was a difference of sentiment, but would leave it to the government to follow out the course already adopted.—Lord GODERICH declined to withdraw his motion, which, upon a division, was negatived by 158 to 114.

On Friday, March 2, Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to a question from Mr. French, stated that government had received despatches announcing the *Death of the Emperor of Russia*.

Replying to Mr. Dundas, Sir G. GREY said that the further progress of Lord J. Russell's *Education Bill* had been postponed until after the Easter recess.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved a resolution authorising the *Sebastopol Inquiry Committee to conduct its Investigations in Secret*, and argued in favour of that mode of proceeding.—The relative advantages of an open or secret investigation were discussed at considerable length. Ultimately Mr. Roebuck yielded to the evident wish of the house, and withdrew his motion for a secret investigation, recapitulating at the same time the reasons which led him to believe that a close committee would have been the best.

The house then went into committee of supply, the remaining votes of the series on the *Army Estimates* were agreed to, after a miscellaneous discussion. The house then resumed.

The *Exchequer Bills* (17,183,000*l.*) Bill went through committee.

Lord PALMERSTON obtained leave to bring in a bill enabling a *Third Secretary and Under-Secretary of State to sit in the House of Commons*. The bill was brought in, and read a first time.

On Monday, March 5, Mr. RICH, on the order for going into committee of supply, moved a resolution, that it is expedient that measures be taken for *Promoting the Efficiency of our Military Academies*. He insisted upon the necessity of a reform in the education of officers in the army, to which end, incentives, he said, were wanting, owing to the manner in which promotion was obtained in the army, by means of interest at the Horse Guards, and he adduced instances in which appointments to the staff had been made without reference to qualification or length of service. A large proportion of the persons who received commissions were, he argued, utterly destitute of professional education. The remedy was to require all candidates for commissions in the army to undergo examinations as in the navy, and to work out the institutions for preparing officers for regimental and staff appointments in the spirit in which they were originally established.—Mr. F. PEEL said there could not be two opinions as to the general value of education to military officers. The more the facilities for learning their profession were multiplied, the more their minds would be disciplined, their understandings cultivated, and their resources increased. But he would not have the education of too high a character, since by adopting a high standard the services of many valuable officers would be lost. He admitted that the institutions for military education in this country were scanty, and that it was a defect in the present system that officers appointed to the staff were often acquainted with only regimental duties. The government, he said, was sensible of the importance of the question, and were desirous of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion.—Colonel DUNNE contrasted the course of education requisite for officers in the French army before they were considered fit for staff appointments with the negligent and inefficient system pursued in the English service. In our army, he contended, there was no security that the staff officers should be either well-educated or sufficiently trained for the performance of their important duties.—Lord PALMERSTON observed that great advan-

tage would arise if care was taken that in every step of promotion an officer kept up his attainments. The qualities which constituted a good general were inborn; a great many more men were fit for good statesmen than for good commanders. At the same time it was important that officers should maintain a progress; and, if examinations were tests of military knowledge, he thought they should take place, not only upon an officer's entrance into the service, but that he should know that unless he kept his mind going he would not gain a step in promotion.—Mr. RICH withdrew his motion, and the House went into committee of supply on the *Ordnance Estimates*.—Mr. MONSELL, premising that these estimates were large beyond precedent, proceeded to explain the several votes, stating that the vote for the Ordnance-office was withdrawn.—In the course of an animated discussion which arose upon the first vote of £1,402,964, for barracks supplies, wages and ordnance stores, severe comments were made by Mr. Muntz, Sir J. Paxton, Lord Seymour, and Mr. Newdegate upon the alleged mismanagement of the Ordnance Department with reference to the small-arm factory at Enfield and the huts and barracks to be erected at Aldershot; and Mr. Muntz moved to reduce the vote to £15,000; but the motion was negatived upon a division by a large majority.

On Tuesday, March 6, Mr. CRAUFURD moved the appointment of a select committee, to take into consideration the circumstances under which Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., had been Appointed to the Recordership of Brighton. He based his motion upon various allegations touching the past professional career of the above-named learned gentleman, especially as regarded some transactions connected with the Horsham election in 1847.—The motion was seconded by Sir J. Walmsley, and resisted by the Attorney-General, who denounced with much indignation the attempt to affix stigma upon the character of an honourable man on account of long past transactions, which had never been impeached at the time.—After some further discussion, the motion was withdrawn.—Mr. BUTT moved that all record of the motion just proposed should be omitted from the journals of the house.—Mr. CRAUFURD objected to such a step as implying the falsehood of the statements set forth in the resolution he had placed upon the paper.—The house was cleared for a division, but none took place, owing to the impossibility of finding a second "teller" to co-operate with Mr. Cranfurd. The motion accordingly passed with the solitary negative of that hon. member.

Mr. MACKINNON called the attention of the house to the importance of establishing *Tribunals of Industry*, by whose intervention any claims or controversies between masters and operatives might be easily and satisfactorily adjusted. After briefly explaining the advantages which might be expected from the operations of tribunals such as he had indicated, the hon. member concluded by moving for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the law and action of the analogous institution known as the *Councils des Prud'hommes* in France.—Sir G. GREY urged that all the information which a committee could collect was already within the reach of hon. members.—One or two members having briefly spoken, Mr. Mackinnon withdrew his motion, and during a motion made by Mr. A. PELLATT for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the acts regulating *Interments in Parochial Burial Grounds and Proprietary Cemeteries*, the house was counted out.

On Wednesday, March 7, the house having gone into committee on *Public Libraries and Museums Bill*, considerable discussion took place on the successive clauses of the measure, and several amendments were proposed and carried affecting the details of the bill. Among others a proviso, moved by Mr. EWAIR, for enabling the libraries established under the new measure to take in newspapers, was adopted upon a division, by a majority of 64 to 22—42. The bill went through committee, and was ordered to be reported.

The second reading of the *Judgments and Execution Bill* was opposed by Mr. MACARTNEY, who moved that it be read a second time that day six months.—Legal arguments for and against the bill were advanced by

the Solicitor-General, Mr. Napier, the Attorney-General, Mr. Whiteside, Mr. I. Butt, and other members.—Mr. CRAUFURD, who had charge of the measure, having offered some brief vindication of its principle, the house divided—For the second reading, 18; against, 89. The bill is consequently rejected.

The *Exchequer Bills* (17,183,000*l.*) Bill was read a third time and passed.

On Thursday, March 8, Mr. HETWOOD moved that a select committee should be appointed "to inquire into the best means of affording to the nation a full and equal participation in all the advantages, which are not necessarily of an ecclesiastical or spiritual character, in the *Public Schools and Universities of England and Ireland*, and of improving the educational system in those great seats of learning, with a view to enlarge their course of instruction in conformity with the requirements of the public service."—Mr. EWAIR seconded the motion.—Lord PALMERSTON opposed the motion. Commissions had inquired into and reported upon the state of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. A bill was in preparation for applying to Cambridge, *mutatis mutandis*, the improvements carried out at Oxford. The proposed inquiry would be a waste of time, and would lead to no practical result.—The motion was withdrawn.

Sir Henry HALFORD moved for leave to bring in a bill to *Restrain Stoppages from Wages in the Hosiery Manufacture*. It was literally the same as the bill of last session. Mr. Packe, Sir Joshua Walmsley, Mr. W. J. Fox, and Mr. Newdegate, supported the motion: it was opposed by Sir George Grey, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Liggs, and Mr. Barrow. On a division, the motion for leave was negatived by 96 to 58.

Mr. MALINS called attention to the *Recent Naval Operations in the Baltic*, and moved for a copy of any correspondence that had passed between the Board of Admiralty, or any member of the government, with Sir Charles Napier, since the 20th of December last. The object of the speech with which Mr. Malins accompanied his motion, was to show that Sir Charles Napier had been unjustly treated, and had been censured and dismissed from his command. In doing this, he made a large use of a private correspondence which had passed between Sir Charles Napier and Sir James Graham, and which had been supplied him by Sir Charles himself. His main allegations were, that the conduct of Sir Charles had met with the unqualified approval of the Admiralty up to the 24th September; that subsequently Sir Charles had been goaded to attack Sweaborg, at a season when the weather could not be depended on for two hours at a time, and when the French fleet had departed; that on the 10th October Sir Charles tendered his resignation; that an "angry correspondence" ensued; and that when Sir Charles returned he was ordered "to strike his flag and come ashore."—Sir Thomas HERBERT seconded the motion.—Sir James GRAHAM commented severely on the conduct of Mr. Malins, in making a lawyer-like use of a brief held for Sir Charles, reading "garbled extracts" from documents that could not be produced, and from private letters without the permission of the writers. Sir James complained that he should be called upon to defend himself with his hands tied: for he had brought no papers, and his fidelity to the public service would not permit him to disclose confidential correspondence respecting naval operations only suspended during the winter, to be carried out in the spring. Sir Charles had not been urged to attack Sweaborg except in accordance with his own plans, at the time he should select, and "at his own discretion." Upon "the whole," Sir James had approved of the discreet conduct of Sir Charles in his command; but his language in addressing the Admiralty was "turbulent and insubordinate," and could not be submitted to; nor could the course he had subsequently pursued be passed over without animadversion. The course taken by the Admiralty in what was called the "dismissal" of Sir Charles was only in accordance with precedent.—Admiral WALCOTT said that Sir Charles Napier was dismissed in a curt way, but then the Admiralty deals in curt ways. He thought that some mark of approbation should have accompanied the order

to strike his flag.—Sir Charles Wood said, he had never witnessed a course similar to that pursued by Mr. Malins, and he must protest in the strongest manner against it. It is impossible, consistently with the interests of the public service, to produce papers discussing the possibility and the mode of attacking certain fortresses in the Baltic, just as a fleet is about to proceed to the Baltic.—Mr. Nilner Gibson, Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Otway, Mr. Cowper, and the Attorney-General supported the government view.—Lord PALMERSTON said he must vote against the motion; but he should be sorry to think, admiring as he did the professional and personal character of Sir Charles Napier, that he stood in the position of a man who had been censured and dismissed. Sir Charles had rendered important service in the command of the Baltic fleet; and nothing which occurred last year in the slightest degree diminished the high character he had previously attained in the service of his country.—Mr. MALINS having obtained this recognition of Sir Charles's merits, withdrew the motion.

On Friday, March 9, a *New Writ was Ordered for Tamworth*, Sir R. Peel having accepted the office of a Lord of the Admiralty.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to questions, stated that the government intended to proceed with the *Newspaper Stamp Bill*, of which he should move the second reading, on Monday week.

Mr. WILLIAMS having inquired whether there was any intention of forming *Volunteer Rifle Corps*, Lord PALMERSTON replied in the negative, observing that such corps would occasion considerable expense without offering any corresponding advantages. The persons who had volunteered for the service were chiefly engaged in civil employments, and were wholly unfit to endure the hardships of a soldier's life. He had accordingly abstained from countenancing the offers made to the government on the subject. The house then went into committee of supply, and proceeded to pass the remaining votes belonging to the series of Ordnance estimates.

On resuming, the second reading of the *Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Advances Bill* was moved, and a protracted discussion took place respecting the course which should be adopted in regard to this measure in subsequent stages. Ultimately the bill was read a second time, on the understanding that if certain objections urged by the Irish members to its details could not be obviated by special arrangement the measure should be referred to a select committee.

On Monday, March 12, on the motion for going into committee of supply, Sir J. PACKINGTON remarked upon the injury to the public service that must arise from the *Prolonged Absence of the Colonial Secretary*. Very important questions were at the moment arising in various dependencies which called for immediate solution, and he considered the ministry highly censurable if, without the excuse of absolute necessity, they had left the business of the colonial office to be performed by a colleague already sufficiently loaded with the duties of his own department.—Lord PALMERSTON assured the house that, under the arrangements that had been made for the performance of the duties of the department by the home secretary, there was no danger of any colonial question being neglected.—Mr. ADDERLEY pointed out several cases and incidents in different colonies, which, he contended, required immediate and exclusive attention from the colonial secretary.—Sir G. GREY adverted *seriatim* to the cases alluded to by Mr. Adderley, and argued that they either presented no difficulty or no urgency for their solution. Neither the public service, nor the interest of the colonies would, he submitted, suffer damage from the temporary absence of Lord J. Russell.—Mr. LOWE criticised the compact which, he asserted, Sir J. Packington, when colonial secretary, had attempted to conclude with the legislature of South Australia.—Mr. MACGREGOR, from his knowledge of Austrian policy, feared that Lord J. Russell would undergo a long detention at Vienna before the purpose of his diplomatic mission could be accomplished. During this interval the most pressing affairs of the colonies must be left unattended to.

The house then went into committee of supply, when the votes for the *Commissariat Service*, comprising a gross amount of about 2,400,000*l.*, were brought forward by Mr. F. PEEL, and agreed to after considerable discussion.

On Tuesday, March 13, Mr. HEYWOOD moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law as to *Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister* or a deceased wife's niece.

In support of the motion he went over much of the ground traversed in preceding discussions, insisting upon the growing feeling in favour of a change of the law, and the increasing number of these marriages in spite of the law, and that the simplest remedy for this state of things was to repeal the prospective prohibition of these marriages contained in Lord Lyndhurst's act of 1835, which legalised those of antecedent date. He referred to authorities in favour of permitting such marriages, contending (mainly upon the interpretation put by Sir William Jones on a certain phrasology in the 18th chapter of Leviticus) that they were not forbidden by scripture, the prohibition having originated in the Greek and Roman canon law, and that the principle of avoiding such marriages on the ground of affinity could not be traced to any competent authority, while it was irreconcileable with that of allowing natural affection to prevail.—Sir F. THESIGER opposed the introduction of the bill, because the question had been thoroughly discussed in the house, the details were comparatively insignificant, and the whole question was embodied in the important principle of the bill. He was satisfied that, even if Mr. Heywood should gain a temporary success, he had no chance of finally carrying the measure; and he appealed to him whether it was, under such circumstances, desirable to stir a subject of the kind, upon which, he said, no new light had been thrown since the last decision. In considering the question of expediency, he denied that the violations of the law had been so frequent as Mr. Heywood alleged, and argued that it would be of the worst example to legislate for the relief of deliberate offenders against the law. Upon the religious part of the question, respecting which he regretted that a diversity of opinion should exist, he maintained that the precept in the 18th chapter of Leviticus was part of the moral law; that it contained a general prohibition, including the case in question; and that the marriage law of the Jews was binding upon Christians, if possible, in a closer and higher degree than upon the Jews. This was the uniform opinion of the early church, until the abuse of papal dispensations placed the church of Rome in a dilemma upon this point. He traced the English law in respect to these marriages down to the year 1835, when the act passed which, by a compromise (which he condemned), remedied the unsatisfactory state of the law by legalising preceding marriages, and rendering future marriages within the degrees of affinity, not merely voidable, but absolutely void. Mr. Heywood's bill did not propose to include all cases of affinity; but if the legislature once began to extend the limits of the marriage law, it must sweep away all the degrees of consanguinity, and confine the prohibition to the degrees of affinity. He opposed the bill because it would be legislating contrary to the law of God, while it would introduce discord and discomfort into families, and destroy the finer feelings of domestic affection.—Mr. Bowyer, Mr. E. Ball, and Mr. Milnes supported the motion.—Mr. R. PHILLIMORE protested against what he considered to be extraordinary doctrines of law propounded by Mr. Heywood and Mr. Bowyer. If he wanted an argument against the bill, he should find it, he said, in its limitations, since it touched only certain cases of affinity, and excluded Scotland from its operation. Without entering upon the theological ground, he thought, as no case had been made out for this measure, the house would exercise a wise discretion in rejecting the motion, on the grounds of policy, expediency, and justice.—Mr. SPOONER said he should vote for the introduction of the bill, without pledging himself to all the details. He believed the existing law exerted a most demoralising influence upon the middle and lower classes of society, and that it was completely against the law of God.—Mr. DRUMMOND observed that

Sir F. Thesiger had stated the true history of the question; there never was a doubt upon the mind of the church as to the true meaning of the Levitical text, until from the third century to the fifth began the question of dispensations.—Lord PALMERSTON said he should vote in favour of the motion. He could not think that this was a question as to the law of God after the act of 1835, which parliament would not have passed if there had been such a fundamental objection to these marriages. Recollecting the maxim, “*Quid prosum leges sine moribus?*” believing that the moral feeling of the community at large was not with the existing law, that there was no moral objection to these contracts of marriage, and that the law caused a great deal of misery and social evil among the middle and lower classes, he should give his vote in favour of the motion.—Mr. WALPOLE observed that the act of 1835 made no essential difference in the law; it said that those marriages already contracted should not in future be voidable in the lifetime of the parties, placing them on the same footing as they stood in before when one of the parties died; it left the parties open to the censure of the ecclesiastical court, though it did not legitimatise the children. If parliament once admitted the doctrine that persons were entitled to be relieved from the consequences of violating the law of the land, and he believed the law of God, in this matter, he saw nothing to keep the bonds of society together. He implored Lord Palmerston to consider the effects upon the country of this interesting question being continually ventilated in parliament and agitated out of doors, contrary to the opinion of the people of Scotland, to the general feeling of the people of Ireland, and to a large, if not the largest, portion of the people of this country.—Mr. CORDEN observed that the opponents of this measure had abandoned their strong ground, founded upon an alleged divine prohibition of these measures. He believed, with Lord Palmerston, that public opinion out of doors did not uphold the existing law, but that it sanctioned the evasion of it. He knew individuals holding a respectable position, who had gone abroad to contract such a marriage, and who, on their return, suffered in no degree the estimation of society.—Upon a division, the motion was carried by 87 to 53.

Mr. J. BALL moved a resolution—“That it is expedient that more effectual means should be adopted to improve the *Education of Pauper Children in Ireland*;” enforcing his motion by a description of the condition of those children and the defects in the practical working of the present system of educating the young poor in Ireland. He suggested remedies, and the application to Ireland of the same rules and principles as were adopted in England.—Mr. HORSMAN admitted that the existing system was extremely deficient, owing to the effects of the law, which required some amendment, so that it might act compulsorily upon the local guardians. Much improvement had, however, taken place, and as a change was coming over Ireland, and a new and happier state of things was in prospect, it was unreasonable to ask the government to contribute pecuniary aid towards this object, and unwise on their part to consent, although there was every disposition to do justice to the subject.—The motion was discussed by Mr. Roche, Mr. S. Fitzgerald, Mr. P. O'Brien, and Mr. F. Scully.—Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to the claim made upon the consolidated fund for this object, remarked that while England received 362,000/- a year from this source, Ireland enjoyed 730,000.—Mr. French and Mr. Grogan protested against the unfairness of this comparison, which was defended by Mr. Wilson.—Upon a division the motion was negatived by 80 to 32.

On Wednesday, March 14, on the motion for going into committee on the *Friendly Societies Bill*, Mr. P. SCROPE objected that, under the new law, these societies, which were as a rule of very brief duration, would go before the public with the *prestige* of registration and enrolment, and make engagements for long terms of years which they could not reach.—Sir G. GREY, Mr. BRIGHT, and Mr. A. PELLATT spoke in favour of the bill, and the house went into committee. In the discussion which ensued, clauses 6, 7, and 8, constituting a central unpaid commission, were with-

drawn, and clauses 19, 36, 40, and 44, were struck out. The rest of the clauses and the schedule were agreed to.

On Thursday, March 15, Mr. Locke KING moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better *Settling of the Estates of Intestates*. At present, he remarked, when persons died possessed of real and personal estates, without making a will, the law dealt with and distributed the different species of his property in a very different manner. This distinction he proposed to obliterate by his measure.—Mr. MASSEY seconded the motion, observing that the bill did not contemplate the enactment of a new law, but simply extended to real property the operation of the existing statute of distribution.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL pointed out the extensive nature of the changes in the law of property and inheritance which, as he contended, would be the inevitable consequences of the proposed bill. He saw no counterbalancing advantages of sufficient value to justify the innovations it would occasion.—Mr. EWART considered the modification now suggested in the law to be wise and moderate, and conformable to the spirit of the age. On a division, there appeared—For leave to bring in the bill, 84; against, 156. So the motion was lost.

Mr. WILLIAMS moved a resolution on the subject of *Probate Duty*. It was to the effect that improprieties, estates belonging to corporations, universities, bishoprics and capitular properties, should pay the same probate tax that is now levied on real property. The resolution was opposed by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, and negatived by 84 against 61.

Mr. CORBETT moved for leave to introduce a bill *Limiting to Ten Hours per Day the Period of Work by Females and Young Persons in Factories*, and to improve the system of inspection in such factories. The principle of his measure, he remarked, had been adopted in existing factory acts, but, from circumstances which he detailed, was imperfectly worked out, and subject to constant evasion. He wished to render the provision on this subject more strict, so as to carry into effect the intentions of the legislature. The chief object of his measure would be to abolish the “shift” system in factories, and enact a real and honest ten hours’ bill.—Mr T. DUNCOMBE seconded the motion.—Sir G. GREY objected to interfere with the delicate and important relationship between the manufacturers and the operatives without a far more clearly developed necessity than had been shown to exist for the bill now proposed. By the present factory act the hours of labour had been abridged, and a great boon given to the female and juvenile workers. Subsequent measures had been passed to improve the act of 1847, in which the interests of the operatives were carefully consulted, and the best arrangements that seemed practicable effected, both for the employers and the employed. Describing the nature and effect of the law as it now stood, he contended that the system worked well, was framed upon just principles, and ought not now to be lightly disturbed.—Mr W. J. FOX considered that the bill was expedient and well timed. It did but place the operatives in actual possession of a privilege which parliament had designed to give them, but which had been defeated by an accidental imperfection in the law. The factory act had done so much good, and received so much approval, that there could be nothing but advantage in giving full enforcement to the principle which it embodied.—Mr BRIGHT also resisted the proposal to re-open a question which had formerly excited much debate, and been settled at last by a compromise. The manufacturers had accepted a bill limiting the hours of work to sixty per week; and it would be most mischievous to disturb the arrangement and create discord throughout the manufacturing districts, merely for the sake of further reducing the sixty to fifty-eight hours. The factory act was exceedingly unpalatable to the employers, and had been carried out under the auspices of Mr Horner in a most insulting manner. Nevertheless they had fulfilled its enactments in a spirit of good faith, and should not be outraged by further annoying restrictions.—Mr E. BALL supported the motion, calling upon the house not to disregard the appeal made to them on behalf of the manufacturing operatives.—Lord PALMERSTON gave his official contradiction to the assertion that the existing

factory law was violated to any serious extent either in its letter or its spirit. In the present system protection was afforded to the young and female workers. The bill now proposed would occasion a legislative interference with adult labour, which he considered a vicious principle, and could not adopt it, even so far as to consent to the introduction of the measure.—Mr COBBETT having briefly replied, a division took place, when the motion for leave to bring in the bill was negatived by 109 votes to 101.

On Friday, March 16, Sir J. PAKINGTON moved for leave to bring in a bill for the encouragement and promotion of *Education in England and Wales*. His bill was to be altogether permissive, and in no way to interfere with the educational establishments of any description already in existence. To carry out the scheme he proposed to create districts, which in towns were to correspond with the municipal boundaries, and in the country with the areas of the poor-law unions. In every district, where a majority of the inhabitants chose to avail themselves of the measure, it would enable them to elect a board of education, by which schools could be built, and rates, limited to a certain maximum, levied for their construction and maintenance. These schools he designed to make perfectly and invariably free to all classes of scholars, and to place them under the supervision of the committee of council, with the view of obtaining grants in aid for their support from the consolidated fund. Declaring, finally, his conviction, that religious instruction should in no case be separated from secular teaching, the right hon. baronet described the precautions by which he hoped to reconcile the religious element in the schools to be established under his bill with the conscientious scruples of the members of different sects.—Mr HADFIELD strongly objected to the levy of a compulsory vote for educational purposes. He contended that the voluntary principle had already done much, and could be made abundantly sufficient to provide instruction for the whole population of the country.—Lord STANLEY expressed his cordial approbation of the proposed measure. The voluntary principle had been found wanting, and was now practically abandoned.—Sir G. GREY, on behalf of the government, gave a ready consent to the introduction of the bill, but felt little sanguine of its success. He admitted the great want of education, but feared that, unless attendance were rendered compulsory, indifference and pecuniary considerations would keep a large part of the juvenile population away from the schools.—Lord R. CECIL thought the statements respecting the deficiency of education much exaggerated, and objected to the manner in which the subject of religion was disposed of in the bill.—Mr W. FOX admitted that the bill was brought forward in a liberal spirit. Approving of the proposal to render instruction in the proposed schools perfectly free, he argued in favour of the secular system.—Mr. M. GIBSON remarked, that upon the question of districts rating, and the gratuitous supply of the means of education, all parties were now agreed. There remained the perplexing dispute about the religious element, which he contended could be settled only by rendering the education to be given altogether secular. On the part of the advocates of the secular system, he declared that a bill founded on these principles would be very shortly offered to the legislature.—Mr ADDERLEY deprecated the rivalry of contending bills, urging the importance of immediate action. He commented upon various details presented in Sir J. Pakington's measure, expressing a general approval of its provisions.—Lord PALMERSTON rejoiced in the hope that the important subject of education might at last be effectually provided for. Recognising all the difficulties of the religious part of the question, he expressed his trust that a solution might be found for them by means of a general relaxation in those extreme prejudices which had hitherto occasioned so much perplexity.—Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Sir B. HALL obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better *Local Management of the Metropolis*. The bill was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for 16th April.

On Monday, March 19, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, after moving that the house should go into

committee on *Newspaper Stamps*, stated that the bill which he designed to found upon the resolutions already laid before the house was identical in principle with the measure previously introduced by Mr. Gladstone. He proposed to abolish the necessity of stamping newspapers. All the liabilities and restrictions under which newspapers lay in consequence of the stamp-duty were to be repealed, and either the whole or a portion of the impression of every journal to be allowed to appear on unstamped sheets. At the same time, any publication, whether containing news or not, so long as it was issued at intervals of not less than 31 days, was to pass freely through the Post-office, if printed upon sheets stamped, as at present, and under the same conditions of amount of duty, superficial inches, and sureties for the solvency and responsibility of their proprietors, as was now practised towards existing newspapers. He concluded by moving resolutions to the above effect.—Mr. GLADSTONE wished to have greater privileges granted for circulation through the Post-office to the literary periodicals other than newspapers. He contended also, that some copyright protection should be afforded with respect to the original matter contained in the public journals.—Sir F. BARING objected to the sacrifice of revenue which the bill would occasion.—Mr. M. GIBSON insisted upon the expediency of enlarging to the utmost possible limits the privileges of the press.—After some remarks from Mr. M'GREGOR and Mr. WARNER.—Mr. BENTINCK apprehended that the abolition of the stamp would deluge the country with trashy publications.—Mr. BRIGHT remarked upon the enormous expenditure which the house had sanctioned on account of the war, and called upon it not to grudge 200,000l. for the extension of the best means of instruction among the public.—Some observations having been made by Mr. Packe, Sir H. Willoughby, and Mr. J. G. Phillimore.—The resolutions were agreed to, and the house resumed.

On the motion for going into a committee of supply, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY commented on the amount of the *Unfunded Debt*, objecting to the permanent practice of issuing Exchequer Bills without authority of Parliament. This led to a long and desultory financial conversation.

Mr. STAFFORD called attention to the *Medical Arrangements for the Sick and Wounded Soldiers in the East*. Upon many points he considered that the existing provisions and arrangements of the hospitals at Scutari and Smyrna were in great measure inadequate; and he urged several queries touching the future intentions of the government with regard to those establishments.—Mr. F. PEEL replied upon all the points presented by Mr. Stafford, describing the condition of the camp-hospitals, the establishments at Balaklava, Scutari, and Smyrna, as well as that of the transports employed in conveying the invalid soldiers. The number of the sick, though diminished lately, still remained very high, but their state and treatment had undergone much amelioration from the arrangements recently made by order of the government for that purpose.—Lord PALMERSTON added that three gentlemen of high qualifications for the task, namely, Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Gavin, and Mr. Rawlinson, had lately been sent to the East for the special purpose of inspecting and suggesting improvements in the hospitals, armed also with powers to carry out their suggestions without delay.

The house then went into a committee of supply, and a vote of 1,638,000l. for the *Expenses of the Post-Office* was agreed to, after considerable discussion upon the Irish branch of the postal service.

On Tuesday, March 20th, Mr. ROEBUCK referred to some *Discontent among the Inhabitants of Newfoundland*, on account of the delay in the introduction of the promised representative institutions in that colony.—Lord PALMERSTON assured the house that faith would be kept with the colonists as to the establishment of a representative government in Newfoundland.

Mr. LOWE having remarked upon the critical condition of the *Colony of Victoria* at the date of the last despatches,—Sir G. GREY observed that the disturbances which had occurred among the gold diggers had been promptly suppressed. The constitution prepared for the colony would, he added, be shortly presented for consideration to parliament.

Colonel NORTH moved a series of resolutions relative to the Military College at Sandhurst, with the view of extending and improving the means of education for officers in the army afforded in that establishment. He proposed also, that free education and maintenance should be granted in the college for the orphan sons of officers of the army, navy, or marines.—Some considerable discussion took place on the motion, and calls were made for a division. Ultimately, however, Lord Palmerston consented to refer the subject to a committee, and on this intimation Colonel North withdrew his resolutions.

Sir D. NORREYS obtained leave to bring in a bill *Restricting the Powers of Grand Juries in Ireland*, withdrawing from them all control over the local expenditure, and entrusting the administration of local affairs to elected councils.

Sir J. WALMSLEY proposed a resolution for *Throwing open the British Museum and National Gallery* for public inspection after morning service on Sundays. So far from occasioning any desecration of the day, the opportunity to visit these collections, he contended, would tend to purify the tastes, elevate the character, and deepen the religious sentiments of the people. Sunday was emphatically the poor man's day, and it was only just to furnish him with the means of spending it most beneficially to his mind and body.—Mr A. PELLATT proposed an amendment, that the Museum and National Gallery should be opened on Saturdays and Mondays, as being more convenient to the working classes.—A good deal of discussion ensued, in the course of which, Mr GOULBURN, advertizing to the amendment brought forward by Mr. Pellatt, promised on behalf of the trustees of the British Museum that the establishment should be thrown open on Saturdays if that proceeding were proved to suit the convenience of the public. Respecting the original motion, he urged that if the Museum were opened on Sunday the precedent would be set for allowing shows, theatrical entertainments, and amusements of every character on the seventh day.—Lord PALMERSTON opposed the motion, believing that the respectful observance of Sunday was either a symptom or a cause of morality and good conduct among the people. Individual actions might be left to the consciences of individuals, but parliament should not sanction a step which would shock the religious scruples of a very large proportion of the community.—Sir J. WALMSLEY offered to withdraw his motion. The members opposed to it, however, insisted on recording their votes, and a division took place. For the original motion, 48; against, 235—187.—The amendment was then withdrawn without a division.

On Friday, March 23rd, The LORD ADVOCATE obtained leave to bring in a bill providing for the *Education of the People in Scotland*. In sketching the principal features of the measure, he remarked that it was substantially the same as the one introduced last session, but defeated principally through party influences. As a preliminary step, he proposed to organise a corps of inspectors, who were to examine and report upon the educational wants of every district in Scotland, and the best means of supplying them. Provision for public education in that country had hitherto been compulsory—a characteristic which he proposed to preserve, but at the same time not to retain the system under the exclusive superintendence of the Established Church. Religious instruction was, however, to be given in all the schools with the proviso, that attendance of the scholars should be left to the discretion of their parents. He proposed to improve the condition of the parish schools, and raise the salaries of the schoolmasters, throwing the expense upon the general assessment for educational purposes, and transferring the management from the presbytery to the heritors in the several localities. Denying the allegation that his measure was calculated to advance the Free Church, the Lord-Advocate declared, that his object had been to attain perfect impartiality, and to assuage the spirit of sectarianism.

On Monday, March 26, the house having resolved itself into committee, in order to consider the royal message respecting the *Sardinian Treaty*.—Lord PAL-

MERSTON moved an address in answer to the Crown; and, after briefly recapitulating the terms of the convention, went on to explain the advantages which he anticipated to arise from it both to the allies, in carrying on the war with Russia, and to Sardinia itself, by bringing that country into cordial union with the great powers of Europe.—A resolution sanctioning the conclusion of the treaty, and authorising the advance of money to Sardinia under the terms specified therein, was put from the chair.—A long and desultory conversation ensued; but ultimately the resolution was carried unanimously.

The motion for the second reading of the *Newspaper Stamp Bill* was prefaced by the presentation of numerous petitions in favour of the measure, many of which prayed that all printed matter should be allowed transmission through the Post-office at a rate of 1d. for four ounces.—Mr. DEEDES moved that the further progress of the bill should be postponed until the Chancellor of the Exchequer had made his financial statement.—Sir Lytton BULWER reminded the house, that he had been the first to introduce a measure for abolishing the taxes on knowledge. Twenty years had elapsed since, and had only strengthened his objections to the impost. The dangers which were then supposed to attend any removal of restrictions, or encouragement for cheap newspapers, were shown to have been altogether imaginary. Low-priced publications now abounded, and evinced no degradation either in character or ability. Respecting the financial objection, he expressed his conviction that the Exchequer would practically lose nothing by the measure; and pointing to the rapid spread of education among the people, enlarged upon the benefits which cheap literature had already dispensed, or held in store for us if we allowed it free scope.—The ATTORNEY GENERAL supported the measure on legal, and Sir F. BARING on financial grounds.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER supported the measure. Existing literary properties, he argued, would sustain no injury. The reduction of duty in 1836 had been equally dreaded, but led to a beneficial result. Admitting that the bill was likely to occasion an immediate loss to the revenue of 200,000*l.* per annum, he assumed the responsibility of providing some sufficient substitute. Should the measure be adopted, he stated that the government were prepared to establish a book-post for the conveyance of all printed matter at lower rates, and with more extended facilities than had hitherto existed.—Mr. DISRAELI supported the amendment, on the ground that the tax should not be surrendered before the method by which it was to be replaced was known.—Lord PALMERSTON supported the bill, which was read a second time, by a majority of 215 against 161.

On Tuesday, March 27, Major REED moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the present mode of conferring commissions in the army, by purchase or otherwise. After some discussion, the motion was negatived by a majority of 104 against 70.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Monday, Feb. 26th.—Criminal Justice Bill read a second time.—Purchasers' Protection against Judgments Bill read a third time and passed.

27th.—Criminal Justice Bill committed.

Thursday, March 1st.—Common Law Procedure (*Ireland*) Bill read a second time.

2nd.—Lord Clarendon's announcement of the Death of the Emperor of Russia.—Common Law Procedure Bill read a third time and passed.

5th.—Royal assent to the Consolidated Fund £3,000,000, and the Consolidated Fund £6,000,000 Bills.—Education in India, Lord Montague's motion.

6th.—Case of Lord Lucan, Lord Raglan's letter.—Bishop of Exeter's motion on Roman Catholic Processions.

9th.—Ticket of Leave System, Lord St. Leonard's statement.

12th.—Secretaries and Under Secretaries of State Bill read a second time.

13th.—Marine Mutiny Bill read a second time.—Mutiny Bill committed.—Tea Duties Bill committed.—Exchequer Bills Bill read a third time and passed.

15th.—Marine Mutiny Bill read a third time and passed.

Ecclesiastical Courts Bill read a second time.

16th.—Royal assent to a number of Bills.—Criminal Justice Bill read a third time and passed.

19th.—Earl of Lucan's case.
 20th.—Prussia.—Lord Lyndhurst's speech.
 23rd.—The Militia.—Lord Panmure's statement.—Criminal Procedure; Lord Brougham's speech.
 26.—Royal Message—Convention with Sardinia. Court of Chancery Bill in Committee.

27.—Militia (Ireland) Bill read a second time.
House of Commons.—Monday, Feb. 26th.—Supply. Army Estimates.—Militia (Ireland) Bill read a second time.
 27th.—Mr. Kennedy's Case.

28th.—Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill read a second time.

Thursday, March 1st.—Sebastopol Committee; Mr. Roebuck's Report.—Promotion in the Army; Lord Goderich's motion.

2nd.—Sebastopol Committee; Mr. Roebuck's application for Scarcity.—Supply. Army Estimates.—Bill for Third Secretary and Under-Secretary of State in the House of Commons read a first time.

5th.—Mr. Rich's Motion on Army Organization.—Ordnance Estimates.—Tea Duties Suspension Bill read a second time, and Ecclesiastical Courts Bill committed.

6th.—Recorder of Brighton; Mr. Crawford's motion.—House counted out.

7th.—Public Libraries and Museums Bill committed.—Jugments and Executions; Mr. Crawford's Bill thrown out.—Secretaries and Under-Secretaries of State Bill committed.

8th.—Purchasers' Protection against Judgments; Lord St. Leonard's Bill committed.—Tea Duties Suspension Bill read a third time and passed.—Mutiny Bill read a third time and passed.—Secretaries and Under-Secretaries of State Bill read a third time and passed.

9th.—New Writ for Tamworth.—Ordnance Estimates.—Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill read a second time.—Marine Mutiny Bill read a third time and passed.—Ecclesiastical Courts Bill read a third time and passed.

12th.—Supply. Commissariat Estimate.

13th.—Marriage Law Amendment; leave given Mr. Heywood to bring in Bill.—Irish Pauper Children; Mr. Ball's motion negatived.—Vacating of Seats Bill read a first time.

14th.—Friendly Societies Bill committed.

15th.—Real Estate; Mr. Locke King's motion negatived.—Probate Duty; Mr. Williams's Motion negatived.—Factory Labour; Mr. Cobbett's motion negatived.—Purchasers' Protection Bill read a third time and passed.

16th.—Education Bill read a first time.—Metropolitan Local Management; leave given Sir B. Hall to bring in Bill.—Militia (Ireland) Bill committed.—Lunacy A. t. Amendment Bill read a third time and passed.

19.—Newspaper Stamps; Chancellor of the Exchequer's resolutions.—Burial Grounds (Scotland) Bill read a second time.

20th.—British Museum; Sir J. Walmsley's motion.—Newspaper Stamps Bill read a first time.

23rd.—Dwelling Houses (Scotland) Bill read a second time.—Education in Scotland; Lord Advocate's Bill.—Intra-mural Burials (Ireland) Bill read a third time and passed.

26.—Convention with Sardinia. Newspaper Stamps Bill read a second time. Criminal Justice Bill read a second time.

27.—Commissariats in the Army; Major Reed's motion negatived. Friendly Societies Bill committed pro forma. Report from Committee of Supply brought up.

infantry were mostly in rags; he understood that their rations were short; that half-rations were common; that they had no regular supplies of rice, which is a specific for diarrhoea; they were badly shod; they had little fuel, while an abundance of wood, the débris of the wrecks, was floating in and out of the harbour. The roads were very bad. The water at Balaklava was very dirty, but there were no dead bodies floating about. The graves in the burial-grounds were very shallow, because of water in one, and the shallowness of the soil in another. There was no regular pier; the best pier was made of trusses of hay; but the water was deep, and there were great facilities for landing from boats. The main street at Balaklava was muddy. The hospitals there were in better condition than he had heard they had been. He could not speak with certainty as to the state of the sick in the camp. The men would have been well supplied had there been facilities for getting up stores from Balaklava. The second witness was Sir De Lacy Evans, but a good deal of what he said was nearly inaudible. The scope of his examination extended to the movements of the army before they reached the Crimea. With respect to the encampment at Varna, he said there was great difficulty in finding healthy sites, in consequence of the want of water; but, during the prevalence of cholera there, he only lost sixty men out of his own division of six thousand. At the landing in the Crimea, the soldiers had the option of carrying their knapsacks. The tents were not taken on the march, because means of transport could not be found. With respect to the road down from the heights to Balaklava Mr. Roebuck asked, "Could not a certain number of men have rendered it secure?" General Evans—"I think if a thousand men had been employed upon it for about ten days, they could have rendered it practicable." Mr. Roebuck—"Then why was that not done?" General Evans—"The men could not be spared, as they were so overwhelmed with work in the trenches. I think, now, it would have been as well if they had been employed on the roads: but it is much easier to form an opinion *after* than *before*." As to the food of the men, General Evans said—"There were difficulties; but there was constantly a great pressure from the want of means of transporting it, and there were contests besides among the parties in charge of the commissariat department. Those contests arose in consequence of the persons who were sent out being utterly incompetent for their duties. They might be very good clerks in the Treasury, but they knew nothing about the duties of the commissariat department. So great were the differences among them, that I was compelled to write to the commander-in-chief, and one by one they were removed. I believe one died from disappointment at his removal." The commissariat ought to be removed from the civil, and placed under military authority. General Evans repeatedly attributed the loss of men chiefly to "overworking beyond all proportion." "There was a difficulty in getting the stores at Balaklava, which arose from no person being there to sign the necessary documents, and those forms were rigidly observed."

Sir De Lacy EVANS continued his evidence on Tuesday, the 6th.—Commenting on the great deficiencies of the transport and commissariat services, he expressed his firm belief, that when the war was commenced, it was never imagined that gunpowder, or even the magazines to which he had referred, would be required. Certain it is that those arrangements were not made which were absolutely necessary. At Varna, it was very evident that the army was waiting for the results of protocols and conferences, while, on the other hand, the Russians were still carrying on the campaign. At that time the deficiency in the personnel of the commissariat department was remarkable. There were great complaints of the shoes and tools supplied to the men.—His division was very inadequately supplied with medicines. There was but little fault to find with the medical staff. It may have been too weak. Speaking of the hospital arrangements, he said that it seemed as if at first it was expected there would be "no wounds." The ambulance carts were "too large and too heavy." There was a deficiency of fuel and of tents.

The witnesses examined on Wednesday, the 7th,

The Committee of Inquiry into the State of the British Army in the Crimea, of which Mr. Roebuck is chairman, began its proceedings on Monday, the 5th instant. All the members were present; and after the committee had deliberated for some time with closed doors, the public were admitted, and the room was immediately crowded. The first witness was Mr. George Dundas, formerly an officer in the Rifle brigade, now member for Linlithgowshire. He had been in the Crimea, unofficially, from the 17th to the 29th of December; and while at Balaklava he had visited the front every day, weather permitting. His statements touched on a great variety of matters, which he had already stated in the House of Commons. The cavalry horses were picketed in the open air, without rugs, and dying of starvation. At first he was supposed to have said they had eaten each other's manes and tails, but when the question was put distinctly, he said he had not himself seen the horses eating each other's manes and tails, but they looked as if they had suffered severely from hunger. The artillery horses were better off—perhaps they had sheds. There were some fifteen or twenty tons of bran in bags lying ashore at Balaklava, and trusses of hay floating about, he knew not why; it might have come ashore after the wrecks on the 14th November. He did not know whether the cavalry men had sufficient food, nor how they got it; they were in rags, and seemed in a state of great dirt and misery. The

were General Bentinck, Mr. Stephen Owen, the only surviving officer of the Resolute, lost on the 14th November, and Captain Wrottesley of the Royal Engineers.—General Bentinck left the Crimea on the 8th November. His evidence, therefore, threw little light upon the state of the army. The men wounded at the Alma were all taken off the field before noon the next day. There were not sufficient medical men in the brigade of Guards. While he was there the brigade began to want clothing; there was some in store at Constantinople, but it was at first uncertain whether the army would winter in the Crimea or not. The men did not want food; they wanted fuel. The ambulance carts were "too large and too heavy;" the men complained of them. The sanitary state of the camp was satisfactory. He thought the mortality was principally caused by the want of clothing and exposure under canvas at such a season, the hard work, and want of rest. As to the state of the road to the camp, he thought very little could have been done to improve it, as, even had there been labour enough available, macadamisation would have made it almost as impassable as the mud; there was nothing between it and the plank road or rail. No men could be spared to attempt to make it.—Mr. Owen's evidence was to the effect, that the master of the Resolute had asked, but could not obtain, permission either to go into port at Balaklava, or lie off the coast under topsails. The Resolute carried ammunition: there were other ships laden with ammunition in the port, that might have been the reason why the Resolute was not allowed to remain there. Captain Wrottesley spoke to the deficiency in the supply of land transport when the troops were at Varna. It was the chief difficulty against which the engineers had to contend.—The mistake of our commissariat was supposing that what worked well in the high civilisation of Great Britain would do in semi-civilised countries. The commissariat ought not to be charged with the transport of the army: it was the chief cause of the inefficiency of the department; it was overwhelmed by applications for the means of conveyance.

On Thursday, the 8th, General BENTINCK made some additions to his evidence. He said that the commissariat officers attached to his brigade were very efficient. "The commissariat were sometimes very strict. On one occasion a voucher was sent back to me because it was signed half an inch too low. I then took the liberty of saying, that if this ever occurred again I would have that commissary turned out of the service. The difficulty never did occur afterwards." "The tools supplied to the pioneers were bad; they were too few, and of inferior quality. The same tools had been tried at Chobham, and found inefficient; yet, the tools supplied to the pioneers in the Crimea were of the same kind." "All my staff spoke French, but none of them had passed an examination at the College of Sandhurst." The other witnesses on that day were Dr. Vaux, surgeon of the Harbinger steamer, and Mr. Layard, who is a member of the committee. Dr. Vaux described how the Harbinger had taken a cargo of vegetables to Balaklava; how they were detained a fortnight delivering it; how it got offensive and dangerous before it was discharged, and the whole rotted on the beach. There was bread spoiling on the beach also. Mr. Layard said that he was present and saw the army disband in the Crimea. The infantry, and parts of the artillery landed in British boats; but they were unfit for landing the horses, and for the horses and part of the artillery French flat-bottomed boats were obtained. Our troops had not the same means of conveying baggage as the French. The field department of the French is very perfect. Their men cook better. The moment they arrived on the heights before Sebastopol, they set about building hospital-sheds. The English troops had no idea how tents ought to be pitched. Before he left Balaklava the harbour was in a filthy state. Nothing had been done to provide storage, but all was in confusion. Balaklava was not so favourable a landing-place as Kamiesch Bay; but if wharfs had been built, matters would have been better. The burial-ground at Balaklava was very badly selected. The road to the camp, although the bad weather had not set in, was "broken up." The sanitary condition of the camp was unsatis-

factory. With regard to the unroasted coffee—"At Constantinople there is nothing else going on but coffee-roasting"; and he had suggested that persons should be engaged at Constantinople to roast coffee: but that was not attended to. Mr. Layard said he had lived with the engineer officers on the right attack, and they complained that the tools supplied were "very bad indeed." Some of the fuses were so bad they did not burst at all. The new traversing platforms for the guns were disabled the first day of firing, and on the second disabled and destroyed.

On Friday, the 9th, the witnesses were Mr. James Clay, owner of steam transports; the Rev. E. G. Parker, chaplain of the First Division; and Mr. Velacott, chief officer of the Harbinger. Mr. Clay, partly corroborated by Mr. Velacott, described the state of Balaklava and its immediate neighbourhood,—the filthiness, the disorder, and particularly the total anarchy in the unloading, the responsibility for which he fastened upon Captain Christie. He enlarged upon the superiority of the Hull method of transporting horses lying on the ballast, which is used by horse-dealers, over the method of slinging hitherto used by government. Mr. Parker enlarged upon the hospital discomforts; the wasteful mismanagement of the stores; and the want of system under Admiral Boxer, whose manners he described as being rough and repulsive.

The witnesses, on Monday the 12th, were the Duke of Cambridge—whose presence excited particular interest; and Colonel Wilson, of the Coldstream Guards. The Duke of Cambridge followed the course of the army from Scutari, where he joined it in May, to Sebastopol where he left it at the end of November. At Scutari, the commissariat operations were not so satisfactory as could be desired: there was a great deficiency of forage; there were no dépôts for storing provisions and other things. At Varna, the troops were never actually in want of provisions, but now and then supplies were not as regular as could be wished, and forage was still irregularly issued. No want of medical men was felt in the First Division, until the cholera broke out; but the Duke thought there should always be three, instead of two, assistant-surgeons to each regiment. The sickness he attributed to the climate; and the great mortality of the Guards, 170 out of 3000, chiefly to the want of porter as a beverage, to which the men had been accustomed in London. There was not enough for the whole army, and it was not thought advisable to make exceptions. The bread issued at Varna was not so good as the French bread; but the Duke heard no complaints as to the deficiency of supply. When they landed in the Crimea, they expected to be attacked immediately: for that reason, they carried with them as little as possible. With few exceptions, every man wounded at the Alma was taken into the hospital the same evening. The trenches were begun before Sebastopol two days after the arrival of the army. "If we could have spared men (the Duke said) to make a road, it would have been most essential; but, as far as my division, we could not find men to make a road and work in the lines too." The First Division was very well served by the commissariat; up to the date of his departure they had never been a day without their rations; once or twice they might have been short of rum, but they always had bread and meat. The commissariat is not suited to the field, and should be placed under military authority. He attributed the irregular feeding of the horses to the head-quarter commissariat: and the non-formation of dépôts to the commissary-general, Mr. Filder. No provision was made for feeding the baggage-animals, and his baggage-animals constantly had no food at all; so that he was obliged to shoot twenty-two ponies one morning. He was very fortunate in his staff; two of whom—Captain Butler, killed at Inkermann, and Captain Hardinge—had taken honours at Sandhurst. He had a good medical staff. The ambulance carts were too heavy, and inconvenient. The loss of life in the Guards was not caused by want of medicines. Over-work was the great cause of sickness. He conceived the men were worked to such a degree that no men could stand it without being seriously affected in health. The Highland Brigade, stationed near Balaklava, better supplied and not worked half so

much, did not suffer half so much as the rest of the division. The tools supplied for working parties were very bad, especially the bill-hooks, which rendered the obtaining fuel still more difficult, as the men had nothing to cut it with. They had been complained of at Chobham. The camp-kettles now in use were made upon a pattern approved by the Duke of Wellington during the Peninsular War. To special questions by Mr. Layard, the Duke answered—"No modern improvements in clothing have been introduced into the army, such as waterproof coats and sheeting." "I think generally there has not been much change in the state of the army since the Peninsular War, except in the arms of the troops, in which there has been a great improvement by the Minié rifle." "There has been a very great change in the character of the men—a wonderful change even in my time." Colonel Wilson went over pretty much the same ground as the Duke of Cambridge; confirming the previous evidence, by details, as to the over-working of the men, the bad effect upon the health of the officers from want of means of transport, and upon officers and men from lack of tents. He also testified to the short supplies of fresh meat, and the inadequate provision for the wounded.

On Tuesday the 13th, the witnesses were Captain Shakspere of the Horse Artillery, Mr. Joseph Crowe; Mr. Kellock, Master of the Himalaya; Colonel Sparkes, of the 48th Regiment; and Sergeant Dawson, of the Grenadier Guards. Captain Shakspere spoke very distinctly on three points. The horses of his troop were well supplied in Bulgaria; before Sebastopol they were not got under cover until the middle of December, when seventy had died; the supply of forage was pretty good, but after the storm in November, the men had to go to Balaklava to fetch it. The Artillery had fresh meat three, and sometimes four, times a week; they had a good supply of clothes; from the first a waterproof sheet to lie on, and had not the severe work which the infantry had to perform. He was president of a committee which sat to report upon the tools, and all were condemned except the pickaxes. The bill-hooks were especially bad. Fresh tools were issued before he left, but they were as bad as the first. All the tools, stores, harness, and all things for the Artillery, were sent out direct from Woolwich to Mr. Young at Balaklava. Mr. Crowe (who was the Correspondent of the *Illustrated London News*) said that he was not employed in any military capacity in the Crimea. He spoke to the mismanagement of the harbour. The Trent, with 240 mules on board, was kept waiting five days because huts for their reception were not ready. She remained some days longer with artillery-platforms, which Captain Christie thought it was the business of the ordnance department to land; and after all she returned to Varna with a quantity of fodder on board. There were plenty of crews who would have landed the stores had they been paid. The fodder was not landed because there was no place for it. On a previous occasion, the Trent, with 200 bales of hay, was ordered to Varna without landing them. Captain Kellock, illustrated the transsport system. The Himalaya had altogether conveyed 1682 horses, two of which only had been lost. He transported the horses of the ambulance corps; the men were old pensioners, and addicted to drinking. The Himalaya also took charcoal from Constantinople to Balaklava. There were about 650 sacks. It was much wanted by the army. When he arrived with it at Balaklava, it was not landed, because Captain Christie would not receive it; and he took it back to Constantinople again. Witness was extremely anxious about the charcoal, and offered Captain Christie, if he would receive it, to land it by his own boats, and with his own crew. It was not received, and witness carried it back to Constantinople again. There he delivered it to Admiral Boxer, who sent lighters to land it. He had daily opportunities of examining the harbour of Balaklava. It was in a very beastly condition, with offal floating about thrown over from the ships. The offal floating in the harbour could easily have been removed. He would have made a requisition to the commander of one of the ships of war, and with 100 men from her crew he would have undertaken to clean out the harbour and the town in seven days. He did not know

whose business it was to keep order in the place. He never saw any order kept at all. When he was at Constantinople he was under the command of Admiral Boxer. The Himalaya required 1200 tons of coals, and from want of system at Constantinople they were often seven days being put on board; at Malta they could have been shipped in twenty-four hours. Sergeant Dawson had lost an arm at Inkermann. He gave emphatic evidence as to the wretched things supplied as tools. He worked in the trenches, and often heard complaints of the tools. The bills would not cut a piece of wood; pieces chipped out of the edges an inch long. The pickaxes were generally bad; they were always coming off the handles, if they did not break; and the shovels were worse than the picks.

On Wednesday, the 14th, the witnesses were Colonel Kinloch, the Earl of Cardigan, and Mr. Macdonald of the *Times*. Colonel Kinloch gave an account of a transaction as to Spanish mules. In March last, he suggested to the Duke of Cambridge the purchase of mules in Spain; and understood subsequently from the Duke of Cambridge that the suggestion was considered a good one, but that it would cause too much expense. Three months afterwards, he was sent for by Sir Charles Trevelyan, in the name of the Lords of the Treasury, and then received instructions to proceed to Spain to purchase 500 mules. That was about the middle of June. Between that time and the beginning of September, he purchased 500 mules; 300 for pack-saddles and 200 for harness.—The prices ranged between 15*l.* and 30*l.* He was accompanied by a commissariat officer, whose duty it was to ascertain the expenses and draw Treasury bills. That officer sometimes remarked, when the rate of exchange was very high, that the government would not like it: but upon witness replying that it was a work of necessity, that the animals must be got, and that he would bear the responsibility, the commissariat officer made no further difficulty. He embarked 300 of these animals at Barcelona on the 26th August, in the Trent; which was well fitted for the purpose. The remaining 200, strong powerful animals, were detained at Alicante until December. He had to keep them at a daily cost of a shilling per head, besides the wages of the muleteers. Everybody charged him high; he was cheated by everybody, as he had no non-commissioned officer to look after the distribution of the stores. Several mules died at Alicante from kicks and disease. The delay arose from the detention of the transports in the Black Sea. At length, on the 20th December, he embarked the remainder at Alicante, in the Poitiers. She had been hastily fitted up, without slings or buckets; the rolling of the ship drove the mules from side to side; two died, and others were maimed. He was not restricted in price. He could have obtained plenty more mules, but there was a difficulty in getting people to take charge of them; the regular muleteers declined to quit Spain. A proposal was made to him, by a capitalist in Madrid, for the English government to hire mules at so much per day, and he would send out the best muleteers with the animals: but the government declined the proposition. He thought it was the only means by which good muleteers could be obtained. The Earl of Cardigan described the progress of the light cavalry brigade, from Kululee to Sebastopol. The light cavalry were healthy, and well supplied both with food and forage, until after the battle of Balaklava. Then a great want of forage began to be felt: they were eighteen days without hay, while there was plenty at Balaklava; but the roads were so impracticable it could not be brought up. The horses were picketed in the open air, and suffered very much. The clothing of the men had become very bad when he left; no warm clothing had been issued. The general impression was that the army would not winter in the Crimea. No stores were formed. It was known that the army would have to winter in the Crimea two days after the battle of Inkermann; and then arrangements were made for the purchase of clothing, by sending men to Constantinople. The men did not return for a month, because Admiral Boxer found no means of giving them transport. The great deficiency of forage for his horses was, under the circumstances, unavoidable. With

respect to Balaklava, nothing could be worse than the state of the harbour. No attempt was made to clean it. He concluded that Captain Christie was answerable for the state of the harbour, "But, at the same time," he added, "it always appeared to me to be an anomaly that the officer who is supposed to have the entire management of the harbour should be subject, more or less, to the authority of the captain of any man-of-war which may happen to come in, which causes divided authority." He had no complaint to make as regards his medical or military staff; and had no difficulty with the commissariat on account of forms. Mr. Macdonald administered the fund intrusted to the *Times* for the relief of the sick and wounded. Before he went out to distribute this fund, he saw the Duke of Newcastle and Dr. Andrew Smith. They told him it was not likely the fund would be of any kind of use for the relief of the sick and wounded: even admitting the want of supplies, they said that such want must have long ago ceased. Mr. Macdonald described the condition of the hospitals; and gave an account of the varied supplies he had furnished from the fund at his disposal. The whole of the purveying establishment consisted of an old man of seventy, Mr. Ward; who, dying, was succeeded by Mr. Wreford, aged sixty, two assistants, and three boys. When the supplies fell short, the chief officer did not purchase supplies, but wrote home. The sick suffered from the want of necessaries, but there was no one to order them to be purchased. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe had the power of making purchases; but, for some reason, it was not used. The medical authorities did not apply to the ambassador; and the blame of not having sufficient supplies rested with them, as they knew where to obtain what was wanted, and could have obtained it much more easily than Mr. Macdonald. The great failure was in the purveyor's department. If a man wanted a shirt, for instance, a requisition was written for a shirt, and taken to the purveyor; who would say, "there is no such article in store," or "call again to-morrow." Miss Nightingale would then be applied to, and she found means of supplying it. Dr. Menzies was at the head of the hospital department when he arrived; but there was no real head—no one who would take responsibilities on himself, until the arrival of Dr. Cumming.

On Thursday, the 15th, the Earl of Lucan was examined, and his evidence occupied the entire sitting.—In command of the cavalry division, Lord Lucan had the state of the horses prominently before him. From the outset there was a deficiency in the commissariat arrangements. Arriving in May at Kululie Barracks, within four miles of Scutari, he found two inexperienced young gentlemen—Mr. Murray, son of the Bishop of Rochester, and Mr. Cookesley—both fresh from the treasury, in charge of the commissariat. There was no hay. In June the cavalry reached Varna, and the same sort of scarcity was felt there. Lord Lucan made frequent complaints in person to Commissary-General Filder and the quartermaster-general; but matters were not mended, and latterly he communicated only by letter, and kept copies in a book, deeming it the "safer" course. He had to employ an aide-de-camp to discharge as he best could the duties which ought to have been discharged by the commissariat.—Arrived at Balaklava, matters became worse. For about three weeks the supply of fodder was pretty regular; but it consisted of barley, which did not agree with the horses. No hay was delivered till the end of October, and the supplies soon fell off. While the horses were suffering and dying, there were immense quantities of hay at Balaklava; it was not landed, but was carried to and fro from port to port. Quantities too, were floating about in the harbour. All this misconduct Lord Lucan attributed to the commissariat. In consequence of a visit he paid to General Canrobert, the French general undertook to lend the English cavalry under his lordship's command thirty days' forage of chopped straw. This was done; but the French becoming short of the article themselves, complained that the loan had not been repaid. To short provisions, excessive labour in doing the work of the transport service was superadded; and the horses died in great numbers. On the 17th

January, Lord Lucan wrote to the adjutant-general, complaining of the cavalry being employed in such destructive work. An "observation" was made on the margin in these terms—"Lord Raglan desires me to observe, that the more work and less food, the more care." Lord Lucan addressed the commander-in-chief himself on the subject; remarking that "the suffering of the horses was so great, that unless a speedy cessation of their labour took place, the whole regiment would be destroyed." To this no answer was given. The men were also badly fed, and suffered much from the mud in which they were obliged to stand. "Their appearance was remarkably good, nevertheless." The cavalry was further employed in removing the sick to the coast; a bad arrangement as regarded the performance of the duty. Many of the sick persons had never been on horseback before, and deaths in the saddle were not unfrequent. On October the 8th the heavy brigade had 884 horses fit for duty, and 23 sick or lame. The light brigade at the same date, had about 1000; but the men were very sickly; and when the heavy brigade joined he transferred 100 horses from the light to the heavy brigade, to make up the losses sustained by them at sea. On the 31st December the whole division possessed 1153 horses. On January 31st it possessed 810. Between the 8th October and the 31st January 1100 horses were lost.—The want of nosebags for the horses had led to much waste of food; and by this hangs another tale of the transport service. "In the month of January, the captain of the Jason came to me and begged me to assist him in getting nosebags and other horse materials landed from his ship, which had been on board from the previous May." Horse medicine too was deficient—the Medway brought out a large quantity of horse medicine in June, but it was never discovered till the following January.—When he took charge of the last lot of mules that arrived, he proposed to Lord Raglan to form a transport corps, to be entirely separate from the commissariat. Lord Raglan wrote him a private letter, thanking him for the suggestion; but said the matter had been under the consideration of the English government, and the officers were coming out. Lord Lucan had no doubt that he could have formed such a corps from the materials on the spot. He calculated the weight of each man's daily rations, including everything, at three pounds; and assuming each mule could carry 240 pounds, 300 mules would be sufficient to carry all the provisions of the army from Balaklava to the front. He also said he could have organised an ambulance corps in a week.

Mr. Augustus Stafford, M.P., was examined on Monday the 19th. His evidence related to the state of the hospitals. He had met with no obstruction at Scutari. The authorities seemed desirous of remedying the existing evils. The state of the hospitals on his arrival was indescribably filthy. There was one horrible nuisance which infected the place, and made the anteroom almost impassable, and which arose from the stoppage of soil-pipes. He applied to Dr. Macgregor to get those places cleaned out: Dr. Macgregor referred him to another department. He went to the head of that department; that person agreed that the place ought to be cleaned, but he said he had "no money" to pay labourers. Mr. Stafford told him he had with him some 200L; the half of which he offered to place at his disposal for the purpose. The committee inquired the name of the person: Mr. Stafford hesitated to name him; but after deliberation with closed doors, the committee insisted peremptorily, and Mr. Stafford said it was Major Silbery, the commandant; but added, that he had always found Major Silbery desirous to assist any improvement in every way. The Turks afterwards cleaned out the places. Mr. Stafford distinctly showed that the utmost confusion of authorities prevailed: he described it as a kind of paralysis of fear of incurring responsibility for going beyond instructions. It was impossible to tell where one department ended and another began. With regard to the landing of the sick, it was difficult to say who was responsible. Admiral Boxer had charge of the sick till they were landed. Now it happened that sometimes the sick got no breakfast, because the ship authorities supposed they

would be fed ashore, and the hospital authorities supposed they had been fed on board. He had fed the poor fellows sometimes himself; he had once carried a man up to the hospital; he had assisted to take off their filthy clothing, covered with vermin as thick as the letters in a page of small print. The sick could not be landed without Admiral Boxer's permission, as the hospital had no boats. Sometimes the communication was interrupted for three days. The medical authorities applied for a steamer: at first it was refused by Admiral Boxer, a seaman of the old school; but afterwards one was put on. Mr. Stafford spoke very favourably of the medical men; who, he said, were overworked. Speaking of the hospital at Balaklava, Mr. Stafford said—"The doctors there were of opinion, that while the diet of the army remained as it was, no medical skill could avail them. That was a constant remark; and, indeed, they appeared to be acting under a kind of fatalism. One doctor, pointing to a poor soldier, said, 'There is what is called a case of cholera; but it is in fact the result of a vicious habit of body, feeding entirely on salt meat, without the benefit of any succulent vegetables.'" As to the green coffee, he said, "If you wished to excite the most phlegmatic soldier, or to irritate the most patient sufferer, you had only to name green coffee. It was a perfect byword: the men said, 'You might as well give us pebbles.'" Mr. Stafford thought it was a great mistake to place the hospitals under Lord Stratford: the unlimited power to provide supplies should have been vested in the superior medical officer at Constantinople.

Dr. Andrew Smith, inspector-general of the medical department, was examined at great length on Tuesday and Thursday the 20th and 22nd. His evidence consisted partly in a narrative of the various supplies of medical stores sent out to the East from the commencement of the war, and partly of replies to questions arising out of his statement. Dr. Smith bore strong testimony to the conflict of departments. His immediate superiors were the commander-in-chief, the secretary at war, the minister for war, the board of ordnance, and he did not know how many more. The perpetual reference of representations and matters from one authority to another interfered most seriously with the efficient performance of the duties of his department. He specified the dates at which medical stores had been sent out. At the outset of the war, the surgeon of every regiment sent to Malta reported to him that his medicine chest was complete and his instruments in order. Mr. Wreford, the purveyor at Constantinople, was authorised by him to get whatever was necessary, and Lord Stratford had authority to spend whatever money might be wanted for that purpose. When he told Mr. Macdonald that the relief fund would not be needed, all the reports he had received justified him in saying so; for ample supplies had been sent out, and at that time he knew the medical authorities were expecting the entire equipment, for a large hospital left at Varna would have been carried to Constantinople. But, notwithstanding repeated remonstrances from the medical officers to the transport service, passage for it was not obtained, and it did not arrive until the 10th November. Dr. Smith read reports from medical officers, showing that there was no want of lint after the battles of the Alma and Inkermann, and that no application was made to the French for lint; that up to the middle of November there had been no want at Scutari of medicines and surgical appliances; and that the statements in the newspapers on that head were false. The officer who was responsible for any deficiency of stores, and for the cleaning of the hospitals, was Mr. Wreford the purveyor. The supply of medical comforts comes under the authority of the medical officer, and the purveyor is bound to purchase what the medical officer requires. Mr. Wreford is sixty or sixty-five years old—he served in the Peninsular war: he frequently complained that he was unequal to supplying the demands of the hospitals. There were constant disputes as to authority between purveyors and medical men. Since the months of September and October he had to supply all the medical comforts of the army; and from that time he could tell when they went, where they went, and when they were

delivered; previously to that time he could not tell. He thought that the control of all the stores for hospitals should be with his department; but this is not the case at present. The total number of medical officers sent out to the East was 559; of whom 29 had died, 58 had been invalidated, and on the 7th of March there remained in Turkey and the Crimea 469 army medical officers, a number which would give about 30 sick to each medical man. With respect to clothing for the army suitable to the East, he had acted on a report from Dr. Dunbreck in Bulgaria, received early in 1854. The first steps were taken in the matter early in May. With difficulty large supplies were collected and sent out in August; and unless there was some unaccountable delay it must have arrived before November. It was different from the ordinary winter clothing of the troops, and was not the supply sent out in the Prince.

The Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne was examined on Friday, the 23rd. He had gone to Scutari to render what assistance he could in the hospitals there. The general drift of his testimony strongly confirmed the evidence of Mr. Stafford and Mr. Maedonald. The condition of the men's linen was as dirty as was conceivable. He had seen men take off their shirts and hide them about their beds, so ashamed were they of them; and he had given them the shirt off his back. The dead-house was so situated that the dead were obliged to be carried along one part of the hospital amid lines of beds on which the living were laid. He had not the least doubt that the great amount of deaths in the wards arose from the irregularity with which the poor creatures were fed. He had known some of them not get food until five or six o'clock in the day. He had also seen some of the sick lying on the beach for six hours before beds were found for them in the hospital. He met Lord Stratford at the hospital few days after he arrived. He had some conversation with him as to the state of the hospital; during which he turned round to Dr. Macgregor, who was present, and said—"Did not I say to you, that for whatever was wanted in the hospital you had to apply to me?" Dr. Macgregor intimated assent. Mr. Osborne believed no man worked harder than Lord Stratford did in his capacity of ambassador. One day, for instance, when witness called upon him, he took up a large bundle of papers and said, "Look here; this is a plan for putting down extortions in the Turkish dominions, and I have to look over and consider the whole of it to-day." Mr. Osborne thought it was altogether wrong to have put an ambassador in the position of Lord Stratford in reference to the hospitals. He should not have been put in a position resembling that of a commandant, as it were, of an army hospital.

On Monday, March 26th, Dr. Andrew Smith, and the Rev. G. S. Osborne made several additions to their previous evidence.

The witnesses on Tuesday, March 27, were Mr. Flower, assistant-surgeon to the 63rd Regiment, and Dr. Menzies, inspector-general of hospitals. Mr. Flower described the dreadful mortality which almost destroyed the regiment to which he belonged, and explained its causes. Dr. Menzies was examined at great length as to the proceedings of the department under his charge.

THE following is the list of the *New Ministry*:—
THE CABINET—Lord Palmerston, First Lord of the Treasury. Lord Cranworth, Lord Chancellor: Lord Clarendon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs: Lord Panmure, Secretary of State for the War Department: Sir G. Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department: Lord J. Russell, Secretary of State for the Colonies: Sir G. C. Lewis, Chancellor of the Exchequer: Sir C. Wood, First Lord of the Admiralty: Sir W. Molesworth, Chief Commissioner of Woods and Works: Lord Granville, President of the Council: Lord Canning, Postmaster-General: Duke of Argyll, Lord Privy Seal: Mr. Vernon Smith, President of the Board of Control: Lord Stanley of Alderley, President of the Board of Trade: Marquis of Lansdowne, without office. NOT IN THE CABINET: Earl of Carlisle, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland: Mr. Horsman, Chief Secretary for Ireland: Mr.

Danby Seymour, Secretary to the Indian Board. Mr. Villiers, Judge Advocate-General. Mr. W. Cowper, Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, and Sir Robert Peel, Under-Secretary for the Colonies: Mr. Peel, Under-Secretary in the War Department: Mr. Keogh, Attorney-General for Ireland; Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, Q.C., Solicitor-General for Ireland.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

An action tried in the Court of Queen's Bench on the 26th ult., illustrates the practice of *Selling Presentations to Livings*. Messrs. Simpson, clerical agents, sued Edward Augustus Lamb to recover damages for refusing to sell the next presentation to the living of West Hackney, for 3000*l.*, according to agreement. The Reverend Josiah Rodwell applied to the Messrs. Simpson, in consequence of an advertisement in the *Times* in November last, respecting the sale of a living. Mr. John Simpson demanded a fee of two guineas before he gave any information. This being paid, he said the living was West Hackney; the income 550*l.* a year with a house; the price 3000*l.*; commission to the Messrs. Simpson 5 per cent. If everything had been satisfactory, Mr. Rodwell would have purchased the living. Mr. John Simpson showed that Mr. Lamb had given him authority to obtain a purchaser for West Hackney, but that Lamb continually delayed the completion of the contract. It was shown, however, that Lamb was not the owner of the advowson, but that in the month of August preceding he had been negotiating for the next presentation with the patron's solicitor, and that it was valued, not at 3000*l.* but 800*l.* or 900*l.* Mr. Lamb's defence was, that he had not authorised Mr. Simpson to sell the property, or said that he was the patron, or that he would give possession in a given time. Lord Campbell said the defendant's conduct was unaccountable: it seemed as if he had some speculation on foot with respect to the living; and it was clear that he had instructed the Simpsons to look out for purchaser in case he became patron of the living. It would be for the jury to say what remuneration the plaintiffs were entitled to for their trouble. The jury gave 50*l.* damages.

At the Central Criminal Court, on the 27th ult., William Alexander Morland, a youth of nineteen, pleaded guilty to *Uttering a Forged Bill of Exchange* for 300*l.* The bill purported to be accepted by Morland's employer, and made payable at Smith, Payne, and Smith's: Morland presented it, and it not only passed as genuine, but the cashier paid him 500*l.* instead of 300*l.* Morland had got connected with some bad women, and he speedily squandered part of his ill-gotten cash upon them; but nearly 400*l.* had been recovered by the prosecutors, and they recommended Morland to mercy.

On the 28th, Frederick Drew, a solicitor's clerk who applied cancelled stamps to deeds in Chancery with a view to *Defraud the Revenue*, was convicted. The case was peculiar. Drew was defendant in a Chancery suit; he was very poor; he was compelled to put in certain documents, stamped; to save expense, or probably as the only way to meet it, he took stamps from old deeds and applied them to his papers. The jury recommended him to mercy on account of his previous good character, and because he had "the misfortune to be defendant in a Chancery suit."

At Salisbury assizes, Henry Farstone pleaded guilty to *Stealing a Pollard*. The theft was committed soon after he had been liberated on a ticket-of-leave, and while he had yet money in his possession given to him when he left prison. Sentence, six years' penal servitude.

Four soldiers of the Royal Artillery were convicted of *Shooting at and Wounding* John Fowler at Devizes. There was a row at a public-house between soldiers and civilians; two soldiers were taken away by the police; the other soldiers became still more riotous: first they got their swords, with intent to use them on a mob, but were prevented; then they obtained a carbine, and the four prisoners repeatedly loaded it and fired at the crowd—Fowler was wounded. The worst offender in

this outrage was sentenced to be transported for life, and his companions for fourteen years each.

William Wright was convicted of the *Murder* of Ann Collins, at Lydiard Tregoz. She had lived with him, but left him for a time; on her return, he killed her, and attempted to destroy himself. He was sentenced to be hanged.

At Lincoln, Elizabeth Lownd, a girl of eighteen, was tried for the *Murder of her Illegitimate Infant*. She appears to have buried it alive—placed it on the ground, and covered it with earth and sods. She was in great distress when she committed the inhuman act. The jury gave a verdict for the lesser offence of "manslaughter," Sentence, fifteen years' transportation.

At Oxford Assizes, on the 5th instant, Dr. John Allen Giles, curate of Bampton, was tried for *Feloniously making a False Entry of a Marriage*. The whole charge was fully made out. On the 3rd October, at six o'clock in the morning, Dr. Giles married Richard Pratt to Jane Green: there was no license, though he entered in the register that there was; no banns had been published; the parish-clerk was not present; Dr. Giles wrote in the book that Charlotte Late, his servant, witnessed the marriage, though she was not present. Pratt was an apprentice, a young man nearly out of his time; Jane Green was servant to Dr. Giles himself; Pratt had been courting her, and she promised shortly to give birth to a child. When this illegal marriage was bruited about, Dr. Giles attempted to escape the consequences by false statements, and he induced Charlotte Late also to declare she was present at the ceremony. After legal measures had been taken against him, he managed to get the Pratts shipped off to Australia: but this did not prevent their depositions before the magistrates from being received as evidence on the trial. As to Dr. Giles's motive for his extraordinary conduct, nothing came to light during the trial to show that it was other than a desire to oblige the young people by secretly marrying them, to avoid exposure of the woman's frailty. In his speech for the defence, Mr. Clarkson urged that the prisoner had made an error as to the date of the marriage, though he admitted that it was an uncanny one; and he pointed out that he had no bad motive. He enlarged on the scholastic abilities of Dr. Giles—a double first class man at Oxford at the age of nineteen, afterwards Head Master of the City of London School, and the author of many works. Several clergymen and publishers gave the accused a high character. Lord Campbell summed up; and the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," as regarded the whole charge, but added a recommendation to mercy. The prisoner then addressed the court at some length in mitigation of punishment. He referred to his early life, and his toilsome devotion to literature, which had resulted in the publication of as many as a hundred and twenty volumes. He had entered the Church, vocation for which he was entirely unfit, in obedience to the wishes of his father; but he had been chiefly devoted to literature; and he suggested that his devotion to his studies had rendered him unfit for the common affairs of life, to which circumstance he attributed the errors which he had committed in connexion with this transaction. He implored the court to deal mercifully with him, and afford him an opportunity of redeeming his character and becoming a useful member of society. Lord Campbell said it was a most painful case. He believed Dr. Giles had no immoral motives for his original act; but he had flagrantly violated a law of great importance; had got rid of witnesses; had violated truth in his letters, and had called on his servant to state a falsehood. The sentence was one year's imprisonment.

At Carlisle assizes, Thomas Munroe, a miner, only eighteen years of age, was convicted of the *Murder* of Isaac Turner, at Lamplugh. Turner, an elderly man, was in the employ of a mine-owner at Whitehaven; part of his duty was to carry money to pits to pay the men. Munroe appears to have waylaid him in the fields when he had some 10*l.* in his possession; and to get this money he murdered Turner, by cutting his throat. The assassin was recommended to mercy by the jury, "on account of his previous good conduct." He protested innocence. He was sentenced to die; Mr.

Baron Parke holding out no hope of a remission of punishment on account of the jury's recommendation.

At the north riding of Tipperary assizes, two men, named Michael Hogan and Timothy Ryan, have been convicted of the *Murder* of a young man, named Mullaney, the crime having been committed on the fair day of Nenagh, in August last, and the cause being an old feud which the family of one of the prisoners had with the father of the deceased.

The farm-buildings of Mr. Richard Featherstonhaugh, of Rockview, late high sheriff of Westmeath have been maliciously *Set on Fire* and destroyed, together with eighteen stall-fed cattle and three heifers, which they contained. Mr. Featherstonhaugh had lately given remuneration to some tenants for their improvements, and thus enabled them to emigrate to America; and it is supposed that the outrage inflicted on his property was the result of the vindictive feelings inspired by even this very modified mode of clearing his estate.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

MAJOR Charles Colville Young, a distinguished officer of the Royal Horse Artillery, who had just returned from the Crimea where he has wounded, has been *Killed* by a lamentable accident at Portsmouth. His wife and children reside at Ryde; on his way to join them, he arrived in the evening at the Fountain Hotel. On retiring to his bedroom, he told the boys to call him at seven next morning. When the boys left him, he had partially undressed himself. The bedroom was at the top of the hotel, facing the street. About two in the morning Major Young hailed a policeman from the window. He said he did not feel well, and wished to get quietly out of the house to a chemist's shop opposite, without disturbing the people, as it was so late. The policeman went to the inspector, to see what assistance he could give; and when he returned the major was lying bleeding on the pavement. He was fully dressed, and had his hat, great coat, and umbrella. When found he was unconscious; he never rallied, and died in less than two hours, apparently from the rupture of a blood-vessel. Major Young was a tall man; the height of the window-sill from the floor was only two feet four inches: it is supposed that the major was seized with vertigo while leaning out of window, and fell over this low sill. The verdict of the coroner's jury was "killed by accidentally falling from a window."

Captain Johnson, superintendent of railway police, was *Killed* at the Warrington station on the 6th inst. He had been engaged superintending the transit of a troop of artillery from London to Liverpool, whence they were to start for the Crimea, when, just as the train was starting he endeavoured to regain his carriage while it was in motion; missing the step, he fell down between the platform and the train, and before the latter could be brought to a standstill, the hapless man was crushed in an awful manner. He survived the fearful accident only a few minutes.

A frightful *Explosion of Naphtha*, by which two persons lost their lives, viz., Mr. Chas. Blackford Mansfield, M.A., Cambridge, and a law student of the Middle Temple, aged 35, lately residing at Weybridge, and George Coppin, a practised chemist's assistant, aged 18, came under investigation on the 3d inst. at the Middlesex Hospital, before the coroner. Mr. Mansfield, who had studied at the College of Chemistry was, on the day of the catastrophe, trying experiments with a small model naphtha apparatus which he had invented himself and patented, in an old detached building, situated in Agar Town, and abutting on the Regent's Canal, when, about one o'clock at noon, a loud explosion was heard, followed by the falling of the building. The unfortunate men were observed directly afterwards escaping from the ruins, and making towards the canal, their clothes all on fire. Assistance promptly arrived, when, by rolling them on the ground, the fire was extinguished, but not before they had been so fearfully

burnt as to resemble more the appearance of shrivelled mummies than living human beings.

A calamitous *Fire* occurred in Clipstone-street, Portland-road, on the night of the 7th inst. The flames were first perceived by a police officer. Before he could make the residents sensible of their danger, the flames had gained a considerable ascendancy. Several persons, however, managed to gain the street by rushing through the fire on the staircase, when two women, one between 70 and 80 years old, made their appearance at the windows, begging assistance from the bystanders. One of the Royal Society's men succeeded, by means of the escape in rescuing these women. Hearing that several persons were still in the third floor, the conductors kicked in the window, but they were unable to enter the rooms owing to the density of the smoke. The roof was next scaled by the conductors, but was so hot they were obliged to make hasty retreats. As soon as the flames were sufficiently subdued to allow the firemen to enter the ruins, they proceeded into the third floor, when they found in the front room the bodies of three female lodgers, and in an adjoining room the body of another woman, the whole being shockingly burned, one having the legs and hands off. The origin of the calamity has not been ascertained.

A young man named Kendall was *Killed* on the South Coast Railway near Bermondsey, on the 5th inst.; while he was at work, a horse dragging a heavy chain passed him, and before he could get out of the way the chain caught him across the body and threw him on the ground. He struggled to extricate himself, but without effect, and the pressure of the chain across his body was so great as to cause his death.

On the 8th inst. a *Fire* broke out at Mr. Rouse's eating-house, Farringdon-street. The flames spread with such terrific fury that the inmates upstairs could not effect an escape; two women jumped out of the window, one of whom was so seriously injured that she died shortly afterwards. The cause was the overheating of the oven.

A frightful *Explosion of Gas* took place on Saturday night the 24th instant, in Portsmouth Dockyard. A number of the dockyard police force were waiting in the large station-room at the entrance of the yard, to go on duty, when the smell of gas seemed to them to be stronger than usual. To ascertain where the escape came from, one of the men applied a light to different crevices in the flooring boards, &c., and at length doing so at the one from which the gas actually escaped into the room, a terrific explosion took place. The whole of the floor of the room was blown up, together with its furniture, and all the unfortunate men who were sitting in it. In addition to this, the roof of the building, only consisting of a ground-floor, was blown into the air. The sufferers were found to be Inspector Henry Stroud, both legs broken; Sergeant Thomas Ripley, leg broken; privates James Giles, arm and leg broken and internal injuries; George Lane, arm and leg broken; James Wassal, thigh broken; T. Sydenham, leg broken, D. Palmer, Henry Neville, W. Elmes, and W. Miller, seriously injured. With the exception of Miller, all the poor fellows required to be taken to hospital, and they were at once conveyed to Haslar. After enduring great suffering, private Giles died, next morning. Inspector Stroud is in a most dangerous state. Should he survive, he must undergo amputation of both legs.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE first anniversary of the *Central Association in Aid of Soldiers' Wives and Families* was held on the 7th instant, at Willis's Rooms; the Duke of Cambridge in the chair. In his opening speech, the Duke declined to say anything on the conduct of the war—it would ill become his position; but he protested against his silence being understood as tying him down either to approval or disapproval. This did not preclude him from attending the meeting, in order to contradict the statement that

the soldiers had been neglected by their officers. "Now (he said), I beg most distinctly to state to you—and remember I had an opportunity of seeing everything that was going on in the different divisions of that army—that there never yet were men more anxious, more zealous, and more desirous to perform their duty, than the regimental officers of the British army. If you wish to hear a real and true opinion upon the subject, I fearlessly ask you to appeal to the soldiers of that army; for I am persuaded that they will be the first to declare that their officers not only cannot be surpassed, but cannot be equalled. Whether in the time of fell disease, when the army was encamped in and round Varna—whether on the battle-field, or on the heights of Sebastopol, where, alas! they have now been suffering for a great many months—the officers of the British army have nobly performed their duty by their men, and have set that example to them which has enabled the army to perform those acts of valour and undaunted courage, which I am gratified to see have been duly appreciated by the country." He added, that "there never were men who bore their sufferings with more patience and enduring fortitude than the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers of the British army. Every one of those men, when he comes home—and, please God, we shall see many of them come home—deserves well of his country; and I doubt not that the country will accord to those gallant soldiers a hearty welcome." Major Powys, the hon. secretary, read the report. The total subscriptions collected amounted to 104,835*l.*; of this sum, 34,000*l.* had been expended in relief, and 6000*l.* in expenses; leaving upwards of 64,000*l.* still in hand. Of the men who had fallen, only 15 per cent left widows. The number of soldiers' wives receiving relief exceeded 5000, the number of children 8000. There were ninety-five local committees; including those at Constantinople, Malta, Gibraltar, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax in Nova Scotia, &c. Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Stafford, M.P., Mr. Napier, M.P., Viscount Ingestre, Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., Lord Faversham, and Lord Lilford, took part in the proceedings. In acknowledging the usual vote of thanks to the chairman, the Duke of Cambridge spoke with much feeling. "As regards myself," he said, pointing to the wounded soldiers in the room, "I must say that *those* are the men—those gallant Highlanders, those gallant Guards, those noble Artillerymen—those are the men who have made me a soldier. It is to them that any thanks are due for the high position in which I have the honour to stand before you as a soldier of the British army. I expected much from those men; and afterwards, when it was their lot to be suffering in the manner in which I have seen them suffer, it would have been a disgrace to me if I had not endeavoured to assuage their anguish, and to palliate the pangs which they must have endured. What, therefore, has been lauded as a mark of friendly feeling upon my part, I regard only as an act of duty towards those whom I have had the honour to command." These sentiments were received with the warmest applause.

The annual general meeting of the *Royal Literary Fund Society* was held on the 14th inst., in the society's rooms, Great Russell-street, Sir Robert Inglis in the chair. When the usual vote of thanks to the auditors was moved, Mr. Dilke made some remarks on the management of the society, which he contrasted with that of the Artists' General Benevolent Fund. The charge in ten years for relieving 429 applicants by the Literary Fund was 5094*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*; or 11*l.* 1*s.* for every draught drawn by the society for the benefit of an applicant. The charge for relieving 559 applicants by the Artists' fund was 904*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* He therefore moved, as an amendment to the vote of thanks, that "the expenses of managing the Literary Fund are unreasonable and enormous, and a great change must be made in the administration of its affairs." Dr. Russell said that the exertions of the secretary greatly contributed to swell the subscriptions; and, considering his labours, he did not think he was overpaid at 20*l.* a year—one of the items complained of. On a division, the amendment was negatived by 32 to 28. Mr. Wentworth Dilke then expressed an opinion, that the offices of the society should be filled by distinguished

literary men; and he moved that Mr. Haliam should be selected to fill the office of president, now filled by the Marquis of Lansdowne. Dr. Milman argued, that the administration of the society should not be limited to those who have actually published books, but should include those who are the munificent, consistent, and honourable patrons of literature. A ballot was then taken; and while the officers were counting the votes for the president, Mr. Charles Dickens moved that a committee should be appointed to consider the desirableness of applying for a new charter, or act of parliament. He described the charter as defective and rotten; taking as an illustration the council of the society, which is appointed never to meet, and is the only thing in creation that has no purpose, end, or object in existence. "What would the public say of a board of directors that did not direct, of a bench of judges who did not judge, of a jury that did not deliberate or find a verdict, of a physician appointed never to prescribe, of a surgeon directed never to set a bone, of a fireman enjoined never to go within fifty miles of a fire, or of picked officers of the Humane Society being tied up not to approach the water? Such was the case of the council at this moment." Mr. John Forster seconded the motion; it was carried unanimously, and the following were appointed members of the committee: The President, the Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's, Mr. B. W. Proctor, Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Mr. J. Forster, Mr. W. M. Thackeray, Mr. C. Dickens, Mr. R. Bell, the Rev. E. R. Gleig, Mr. C. W. Dilke, Mr. W. Tooke, Sir. H. Ellis, Sir. J. Forbes, and Mr. J. Auldjo. Mr. Dilke withdrew his motion, and the meeting separated.

The *Statistical Society* held its twenty-first annual meeting on the 15th inst., Mr. Thomas Tooke, Vice-President in the chair. Among the members present were Lord Harrowby, Lord Stanley, Mr. Farr, and Dr. Waddington. The report gave a very good account of the society's progress. There was an increase of 65 per cent in the sale of the *Statistical Journal*; the index by Mr. Cheshire, the acting secretary, giving an abstract of every paper in the journal, had sold largely and profitably. A classified catalogue of the books had been compiled by Mr. Wheatley: the library contained 2000 distinct works (2600 volumes), besides blue-books. Among the members whom the society had lost by death, the most distinguished were M. Léon Faucher and Mr. Joseph Hume. The existing members of the council were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. J. G. Hubbard, Mr. Herman Merivale, Mr. T. H. Sutton Soheron, M.P., Lord Stanley, M.P., Mr. John Walter, M.P., and Lord Wharncliffe.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE QUEEN, Prince Albert, and two of the children, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, went on the 3rd inst. to Fort Pitt, and afterwards to the Invalid Dépôt, and there saw and conversed with the men who have lately returned wounded from the Crimea; her Majesty saw no fewer than 450 patients. On the 9th the Queen and Prince Albert paid a visit to Woolwich: after reviewing a troop of horse and a battery of foot artillery, they proceeded to the hospital, and saw the artillerymen who have returned wounded from the Crimea. The Queen also went through the arsenal and laboratory, and inspected the new ambulance-wagons.

The Queen held the first levee of the season on the 7th inst. at St. James's Palace. There was a very full attendance of foreign ministers and of naval and military men.

Major Charles Nasmyth, one of the heroes of Siliestrilia, has been admitted a burgess and brother guild of the city of Edinburgh. In his address on the occasion he spoke in vindication of the patient endurance and unsurpassed courage of the Turkish troops in moments of danger.

Sir William Burnett, K.H., after serving thirty-three years as chief of the naval medical department, has placed his resignation in the hands of government.

Mr Layard has been elected Lord Rector of the Aberdeen University, by a majority of three out of the four nations over Colonel Sykes.

The Royal Geological Society have awarded the Wollaston Palladium medal to Sir Henry de la Beche, the chief author and promoter of the Government Museum of Practical Geology and School of Mines.

Mr. Henry Reeve has been appointed editor of the "Edinburgh Review," in the room of Sir G. C. Lewis, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Earl of Cardigan has succeeded his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge as Inspector-General of Cavalry of the United Kingdom.

Mr. C. H. Darling, late Governor at the Cape, has been appointed Governor of Newfoundland, in the room of Mr. Kerr Bailie Hamilton, appointed Governor-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

VISCOUNT PONSONBY, who for many years represented this country at the Porte, died on the 22nd ult. at Brighton, in his eightieth year.

LORD KENYON died lately at Gredington Hall, in Flintshire, aged seventy-eight. He was son of the distinguished Chief-Justice of the Queen's Bench.

Mrs. BENBOW, M.P. for Dudley, died at Hastings on the 24th ult., aged eighty-seven. He was a director of the North-Western and the Shrewsbury and Birmingham Railways.

CAPT. SIR PHILIP BROKE, BART., R.N., died at Broke Hall, Ipswich, on the 24th ult., aged fifty-one. He was the eldest son of the gallant victor in the fight between the Shannon and the Chesapeake.

MR. C. R. DOD, the author of the "Parliamentary Companion," and many other highly useful works of a similar character, died in London last month.

EARL STANHOPE died on the 2nd inst., at his seat, Chevening, near Sevenoaks, in his seventy-fourth year.

DON CARLOS of Spain, the younger brother of Ferdinand VII., and the pretender to the Spanish throne, died at Trieste on the 10th inst., in his sixty-seventh year.

MR. COPEFIELD, the celebrated water-colour painter, died lately in his sixty ninth year.

SIR GEORGE LARPENT died in London on the 8th inst., aged sixty-seven.

GENERAL PRINCE ANDREW GORTCHAKOFF died at Moscow on the 27th ult.

COLONEL SIR F. HANKEY, G.C.M.G., died on the 13th inst., in London, aged eighty-one.

LORD ERSKINE died at his house in Sussex on the 19th inst.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

By the arrival of the *Overland Mail* we learn that tranquillity, with one or two trifling exceptions, prevailed throughout India.—The ambassadors from Ava, who had lately visited Lord Dalhousie, at Calcutta, were so hard pressed for money at Rangoon on their journey homeward, that one of their number actually sold a gold watch, presented to him by the Governor-General, for about one-quarter of its value.—The opening of the Exhibition at Calcutta took place on the 25th of January. Numbers were present at the inauguration, who were highly delighted with the display and arrangement of the pictures, and the other objects of art.—The railway was opened on the 3rd of February, and the distance to Burdwan and back (132 miles) was performed in six hours.—The Madras railway was progressing fast, and an experimental trip had already been made.—The Exhibition in that city was to be opened on the 29th of February.—Subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund in Bombay amounted to 10,000*l.*, and the Bank of Bengal had given 500*l.*

The West India mail brings little intelligence. From St. Thomas's we learn that yellow fever had again made its appearance, principally among the shipping.—In British Guiana the weather was very changeable, and symptoms of earthquake were observable. Several houses had been blown down by the strong winds which prevailed, and so violent were the seas which broke over the coast, that the whole of the seaward defences had been washed away. The district of Kingston was entirely submerged at every tide, and many of the inhabitants were compelled either to remain at home or use boats as a means of transit.—The West India islands are reported to be generally in a healthy state.

The recent arrivals from the *Cape of Good Hope* bring no fresh intelligence of the state of the British Caffre frontier. A dreadful tragedy has taken place on the Dutch frontier. The Caffres, under Makapan, had murdered Field Cornet Potgieter, and several men and women, with revolting cruelty. Pratorius collected 500 men and four guns, and hunted the Caffres to certain caverns, 2000 feet in length and from 300 to 500 feet wide. Not liking to venture an assault, he attempted, on the 30th of October, to blast the rocks above, and so to crush the enemy. But this failed, owing to the loose nature of the soil. He then resolved on a blockade. On the 6th October, Commandant-General Potgieter was shot by the Caffres, and his body fell within the outer defences; but they were instantly stormed, and the body recovered. As the siege went on too slowly, he blocked up the openings of caverns with loads of stones and trees, brought and thrown down by friendly Caffres, coöoperating with the

Dutch. This reduced the enemy to extremities. Day by day they died or were shot down. The women and children rushed out to get water, and many died drinking it. At length possession of a part of the caverns was obtained; and much of the property of the murdered men was recovered. But the stench rising from the dead Caffres—900 bodies were found—compelled the Dutch to raise the siege on the 21st November. Pratorius next led his men against another Caffre chief, Mapala, who fled at his approach. In the kraals the remains of the murdered men were found cut up and roasted with fat! Mapala took up a position where he could not be assailed.

The advices from *Melbourne* contain accounts of serious disturbances at the Ballarat gold-diggings. On the 29th of November a monster meeting was held at Ballarat; the Australian flag was hoisted; the leading agitators addressed some 2000 persons, many of them well armed; but the meeting passed off quietly. Two clergymen from Melbourne endeavoured to persuade the committee to give up a project they had recommended of burning the gold-digging licenses, but without effect, and a large quantity was burned. Next day, November 30, the Commissioners Rede and Johnson appeared at the head of a body of mounted and foot police, having their swords drawn and their bayonets fixed, to collect the licenses. Mr. Rede first essayed persuasion: he told the insurgents that if they memorialised the Governor they would gain their rights; that a commission had been appointed to investigate their grievances; and that Mr. Fawkner was one of the number. This name the diggers received with three cheers. But the tumultuous assemblage cried, "We will not have drawn swords and fixed bayonets"—"Where is the Governor?—send up Sir Charles!"—"We want justice, and we will have it." When Mr. Rede said he must collect the licenses, they replied, "We have burnt them." Amid great excitement and noise, Mr. Rede read the Riot Act; and expressed his determination to apprehend all who had not their licenses. A great cry then arose, "To the camp, boys, to the camp!" For some distance the diggers followed towards the camp the retrograding military force; when suddenly there was a shout of "Not to the camp, boys, not to the camp! Back to our own ground on Bakery Hill." During this period a detachment of the 4th and 12th Regiments had formed near the bridge. Of the diggers some went to the Eureka, some to the Red Hill, where they hoisted the flag—"The Southern Cross;" while the commissioners and commanding officers were holding a consultation on the new road, at a loss as to the intentions of the diggers. At length the military and police formed themselves into divisions

on Bakery Hill. The position being thus taken up, Mr. Johnson asked what he was to do, if, in the collecting of the licensees and the apprehension of the unlicensed, violence were used? The answer from the officer in command of the police was—"If a man raises his hand to strike or throw a stone, shoot him on the spot." These were the orders given to the police. The armed force, so far as the not too intelligible accounts that have come to hand enable us to understand the affair, seem to have retired to "the camp," which they barricaded with sand-bags, and trusses of hay; while the rebels took post at Bakery Hill, and there, with much shouting and firing, formed line, and gave their names as members of the "Reform League." Some went through the manual exercise under the orders of an old soldier. The result of the day's rebellion was seven prisoners in the hands of the government party, and several wounded on both sides. Sir Charles Hotham quickly assembled a considerable force of soldiers, sailors, and police, numbering perhaps 1000 men, with four guns, and despatched them at once

to Ballarat. At four o'clock on Sunday morning the 3rd December, the troops took up positions encompassing the camp of the diggers, at Eureka, which was constructed of piles of slabs, and over which floated the "Southern Cross." The battle was short and sharp. The soldiers first fired over the heads of the insurgents; the fire was returned; then firing on both sides continued for ten or fifteen minutes, till the diggers hauled down their flag. There were 21 or 26 killed in the camp, and 16 wounded; 126 surrendered as prisoners. Of the soldiers, Captain Wise was so dangerously wounded in the leg that amputation was considered necessary; Lieutenant Paul was seriously wounded; three privates were killed, and 30 wounded. After the conflict the troopers were sweeping through the district making captures. On the 4th December, Sir Charles Hotham proclaimed martial law, in the district of Buninyong, and called upon all true subjects of the Queen, and foreigners enjoying British protection in the colony, to hold themselves in readiness to maintain order and the supremacy of the law.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE most important article of intelligence from the Crimea relates to an attack by the Russians on the town of Eupatoria, and their defeat by the Turkish troops under Omer Pacha. The details of this event are contained in the following series of despatches, from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle, dated February 20:—

"Your grace will have learnt, by my telegraphic despatch of the 18th instant, that the enemy had, on the previous morning, at daylight, attacked Eupatoria with a large force and a powerful body of artillery, and had been repulsed, after an engagement which terminated with their retirement at 10 a.m.

"I have now the honour to lay before your grace copies of two letters which I have received from Colonel Simmons, who is attached to the head-quarters of Omer Pacha, containing the details of the action; and whilst your grace will rejoice to see that the Turkish troops which have been landed at Eupatoria have availed themselves of the earliest opportunity to show that the character they acquired on the Danube was well merited and remained unimpaired, you will join in the regret which I feel that they have suffered so considerable a loss, and that among the killed is numbered the general of division, Selim Pacha (an Egyptian), and among the wounded a general of brigade, also an Egyptian.

"This loss, however, and particularly that sustained by a battery of artillery, afford ample proof of the gallant and determined conduct of the troops, and of the serious nature of the attack made upon them, as well as of their being worthy of their illustrious chief.

"I have great satisfaction in drawing your grace's attention to that part of Lieutenant-Colonel Simmons' despatch in which he bears testimony to the efficient assistance rendered to the Ottoman army by her Majesty's ships in the bay, under the command of the Hon. Captain Hastings, of the Curaçoa.

"I have, &c. RAGLAN."

Letters from Colonel Simpson, referred to in the above despatch:—

"Eupatoria, Feb. 17, 1855, 1 p.m.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your lordship that on the 15th instant several large convoys and arrivals of troops were seen moving along the north shore of the Sasik Putrid Lake from the eastward.

"This movement on the part of the enemy caused Omer Pacha to place the garrison on the alert. No further movement, however, was seen yesterday on the part of the enemy; but this morning, at daylight, they advanced in great force, and opened with artillery upon the entrenchments which enclose the town. The advanced line of works, which I informed your lordship it was his highness's intention to erect, were not yet commenced.

"The enemy's artillery opened their fire about twelve

hundred yards from the place, covered by skirmishers, and supported by heavy masses of infantry in their rear, and cavalry on their flanks. The artillery subsequently took up a second position more in advance, about four hundred yards from a small crownwork which is being erected in front of the mills to the north-east end of the town, and after continuing their fire for some time, the infantry advanced to the attack, having formed under the cover of a wall about six hundred yards from the right of the town. They were repulsed at this point, leaving from 150 to 200 dead on the field. On other points of the field a number of horses were left dead, but the killed men were removed. At length, about 10 a.m., the whole force retired, covered by the artillery and cavalry.

"I am not able as yet to ascertain the number of men engaged, but I should think there were not less than 40,000 of all arms, with a very powerful artillery.

"As many as sixty of the enemy's guns must have been firing at one time, amongst them some 32-pounders. Prisoners report that they were accompanied by 100 guns. As yet all the particulars I have been able positively to ascertain is, that Liprandi's division, the 12th, was present.

"At present I understand that they are in position about five miles north from this, their left leaning on the Sasik Putrid Lake.

"It is with much pleasure I have to inform your lordship that the portion of her Majesty's fleet under the Hon. Captain Hastings have rendered most efficient assistance. The Valorous threw some well-directed shells, and completely covered our left, whilst the Viper, gun-boat, which was at first stationed on the left with the Valorous, by Captain Hastings' directions moved and took up a flanking position on the right near the mills.

"I cannot at present give your lordship any details of the killed and wounded on the side of the Turks. I regret to say, however, that Selim Pacha, commanding the Egyptian Brigade here, is amongst the former.

"One battery of Turkish artillery was completely disabled, every gun having been struck, and a great number (nearly one-third) of the horses killed.

I am desirous your lordship should receive a report of the action, with as little delay as possible, by the Queen of the South, so I must beg your lordship to excuse further details, which shall be sent by a future occasion.—I am, &c., JOHN SIMMONS, Captain Royal Engineers, Brevet Major.

"Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

"P.S. A prisoner informs us that a prince commanded, but he could not remember his name.

"I am happy to say there are no casualties among the English or French officers. Two French sous-officers are among the killed, and two privates wounded.

(Signed) "JOHN S."

"Eupatoria, Feb 18, 1855, 6 p.m.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your lordship that nothing of importance has taken place here since the enemy retired yesterday.

"Owing to the deficiency of cavalry with the army of his Highness Omer Pacha we are not able to obtain exact information as to the position of the enemy, who have entirely disappeared, so far as we can see, with the exception of the usual cavalry advanced posts.

"Convoys of waggons, however, have been seen from the fleet, moving along the north shore of the Sasaki Putrid Lake from the eastward. I am inclined, however, to believe that they are bringing forage and provisions for the cavalry which surrounds us.

"In the meantime, however, his highness is taking every precaution, by adding to the defences of the place, to provide against any further attempts of the enemy. Fortunately the two transports (sailing) containing artillery and materials for constricting works have arrived, and in the course of the night we shall have twelve or fourteen more guns in position than yesterday. The parapets also have been raised, so that we may hope that our loss will not be so heavy on a future occasion.

"The total loss yesterday amounted to as follows, of all ranks:—Turks: 97 killed; 277 wounded. French: 4 killed; 9 wounded. Total combatants: 101 killed; 286 wounded. Tartar population: 13 killed; 11 wounded. Horses of the Turkish army: 79 killed; 18 wounded.

"Amongst the killed of the Turks, were 1 general of division (Selim Pacha, Egyptian), 1 colonel, and 5 subaltern officers; and amongst the wounded, 1 general of brigade (Egyptian), 4 superior and 5 subaltern officers. Amongst the French wounded was an officer of the Henri IV., who was serving ashore in a land hattery.

"A greater portion of the horses of one battery were killed, and 19 men of the same battery, the whole of the guns being disabled.

"I have not been able to obtain further positive details of the enemy's force.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) "JOHN SIMMONS.

"Captain Royal Engineers, Brevet-Major.

"Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B."

Despatch from Lord Raglan to the Earl of Panmure, dated Feb. 24;

"My Lord,—I do myself the honour, with reference to my despatch of the 20th instant, to transmit to your lordship the translation of a letter I have had from Omer Pacha in which his highness has been so good as to give me a detailed account of the Russian attack upon Eupatoria on the morning of the 17th inst., and of the brilliant manner in which he repulsed the enemy and forced them to retire from before the place.

"Your lordship will observe, with the greatest satisfaction, that the conduct of the Turkish troops was remarkable for its gallantry and determination: and that the arrangements of the generalissimo were such as might be expected from an officer of his high distinction and established reputation.

"I understand from Colonel Simmons that the result of this successful action has had an excellent moral effect upon the Turkish army, which has since been busily occupied in improving the defences and increasing the armament of the works.

"The English men-of-war, Curacao, Furious, Valorous, and Viper, the French steamer Véloce, and the Turkish steamer Schehraer, greatly contributed to the success of the day by the energy of their co-operation, and the power of their fire; and Omer Pacha has expressed his sense of their valuable assistance, as well as that of a detachment of the French army, which your lordship will regret to see sustained some loss in killed and wounded, and among the latter is a naval officer.

I have, &c., RAGLAN."

The letter from Omer Pacha contains a repetition of the particulars given above. In regard to the loss sustained by his troops, Omer Pacha says: "Our losses are not very numerous, but they are to be deplored. We regret the death of Selim Pacha, Lieutenant-General

general commanding the Egyptian troops. We had, moreover, 87 killed and 277 wounded; 79 horses killed and 18 wounded. Amongst the killed there are seven officers, and 10 are wounded, amongst them Suleiman Pacha. Thirteen inhabitants of the town have been killed, and 11 wounded. The French had four killed and eight wounded; Lieutenant Las Cases among the latter."

A striking account of this battle is given by the correspondent of the *Daily News*, who was an eyewitness. He thus describes the final assault by the Russians and its result: "A few minutes previously the *Furious* had sent a rocket party ashore, who landed on the extreme right of the town, and coming round amongst the windmills, opened their fire on the Russians just as the head of the column issued from the burying-ground and appeared on the glacis, and at the same moment the musketry commenced from the entrenchment. The column pushed on to a distance of not more than twenty yards from the ditch, but there gave way and fell into disorder. Selim Pacha now made a sortie with a brigade of Egyptians, and charged them with the bayonet; but in the act of leading his men on, received a musket-ball through the body, and fell dead. Ismail Bey was also wounded on the same occasion. The Russians now fell into disorder, gave way, and retired, leaving the graveyard strewn with their dead. The artillery limbered up, and went off, firing occasional shots till it passed the brow of the hill. The cavalry preceded it at a canter, but when on the other side the whole retreated in the most beautiful order, to a distance of about two miles, where they bivouacked on the plain. Immediately after the cessation of the firing, I walked down to the outwork, and at every yard along the inside of the inner entrenchment found traces of the conflict, in the shape of battered houses, dead horses, and here and there wounded or dead men. The scene in the interior of the outwork was terrific. Men lay on every side gashed and torn by those frightful wounds which round-shot invariably inflict. Here a gory trunk, looking as if the head had been wrenched from the shoulders by the hand of a giant; there an artillerist, lying across a splinter of his own gun-carriage—the splintered bones of his thighs protruding from the flesh; another cut in two as if by a knife, and his body doubled up like a strip of brown paper. The artillery horses and their drivers were stationed amongst the windmills which stand in thick clusters between the outwork and the fortifications of the interior, and as the whole of this space was swept for nearly two hours by the fire of the battery which was last brought up, the havoc was dreadful. Nearly eighty artillery horses were killed on a small patch of ground, some by the shot, others by the splinters of wood and stone, which flew in showers from the mills at every discharge, and the soil was strewn with their blood and entrails. I saw all the horses of one gun knocked together into one indiscriminate mass, as if some mighty force had squeezed them up like so much butter. None of all these things, however, attracted much attention from the defenders of the position. All were talking loudly, some few laughing; artillerists, taking the harness off the dead horses, and making repairs on the damaged guns; some throwing up fresh clay where the works had suffered; others carrying off the wounded in blankets, many of the latter groaning loudly; others reverently covering the faces of the dead with the skirts of their coats, and all this amidst a hum and buzz of voices which rose as merrily and cheerfully upon the morning air, towards the sunny sky, as if it were the close of a *fête*, and no grim evidences of a bloody struggle lay on every yard of the soil. Omer Pacha rode round soon after, with a large staff and most of the European officers who were in the place, and in his train I went down to the graveyard. The firing had certainly not ceased twenty minutes, and yet at least 2000 Tartars had rushed out of the town, and stripped and plundered the dead Russians. When Omer Pacha reached the spot he drove them all away, but not before every one of the bodies was stark naked. The greater number seemed very young men, some mere boys; all wore an expression of perfect repose; no trace of distortion was visible either in the features or the limbs;

they lay like men who were weary and slept. Many were half buried and crushed under the tomb-stones, which the round-shot and the rockets had hurled from their places, and sent flying in pieces in all directions. The Russians have retired nearly two leagues hence. The mainguard of their cavalry is, however, still in the plain below the town. The videttes are less numerous than before the attack. It is considered not improbable that their next attempt will be made in the night. I omitted to mention that seven of the inhabitants of the town were killed and twenty wounded in the affair of the 17th. The want of surgeons was greatly felt. The Tartars have eaten or salted all the dead horses of both parties. For the last two days they have been feasting and making merry. This need excite neither pity nor surprise, as horse-flesh is their usual food, even in their villages."

In the night between the 23rd and 24th of February, a serious action took place between the French and Russians. During the previous night the garrison of Sebastopol had established important works of counter-approach opposite our works on the counter-fort of the plateau which descends towards Little Careening Bay. The French commander-in-chief ordered these works to be carried in the night between the 23rd and 24th of February by the troops of the second corps.

This action is described by Lord Raglan in his despatch of the 24th February:—

"The troops of the garrison having lodged themselves on the point of the spur of the ridge from Inkermann over the Careening Bay, at about 300 yards from the new French parallel on the extreme right, General Canrobert determined to dislodge them; and this was gallantly effected at two o'clock this morning, by 1500 men, under the immediate command of General Monet, and the direction of General Mayran,—with, however, I regret to say, some loss, the consequence of the heavy fire that was brought to bear upon them from the enemy's batteries and the shipping, whilst they were engaged in demolishing the works. When this object was accomplished, they withdrew to the trenches, as had been their intention. The gallant General Monet is, I am much concerned to have to add, among the wounded."

These advanced works, however, were afterwards abandoned by the French and re-occupied by the Russians.

The latest official intelligence from the army is contained in a despatch from Lord Raglan, dated the 10th instant in which he says; "I am happy to be able to inform you that the weather is exceedingly fine; and that I entertain great hopes, derived from the reports of the principal medical officer, that the sick will materially benefit by the improvement in the temperature.

"Our advanced batteries are making considerable progress."

"Every effort is directed to the maintenance of the camps in a healthy state, which, as the warm weather approaches, becomes daily more important."

The *Moniteur* of the 27th, contains the following telegraphic despatch from the French chargé d'affaires at Constantinople, to the minister of foreign affairs:—"March 19.—In the night between the 15th and 16th instant our troops carried a line of ambuscade occupied by the enemy's sharpshooters. The Russians, at the same time, made a sortie on our extreme left. It was vigorously repulsed. The enemy had fifty men disabled, and retired in disorder."

Private accounts describe the improved health and increased cheerfulness of the English troops, who had begun to amuse themselves with horse-races, dog-hunts, and other national sports.

The Emperor Nicholas of Russia died on the 2nd of this month. He had suffered for some time from influenza, but refused to keep his room, and appeared in public as usual till the 22nd of February, when he found himself no longer able to go out, and, on the 23rd transferred all business to his son Alexander. On the night of the 1st instant his medical attendant informed him of his condition. "On this," says an account of his last moments which was published at St. Petersburg,

"he calmly took the sacrament, took leave of the Empress, their children and grandchildren, kissed each, and blessed each one, with a firm voice, and then retained only the Empress and the Crown Prince with him. This was about four o'clock in the morning. The Emperor said subsequently to the Empress, 'Do go now and take a little rest, I beg of you.' She answered, 'Let me remain with you; I would I could depart with you, if it were only possible.' To this the Emperor replied, 'No; you must remain here on earth. Take care of your health, so that you may be the centre of the whole family. Go now; I will send for you when the moment approaches.' The Empress could not do otherwise than obey this distinct expression of the Emperor's will, and left the room. Subsequently the Emperor had all the servants immediately about him sent in, thanked them for their services, blessed them, and took leave of them: on which occasion he is said to have been himself very much affected. Last of all the Kammerfrau von Rohrbeck was sent for: the Emperor thanked her for the fidelity she had always shown the Empress, for the care with which she had always tended her in sickness, begged her never to quit the Empress, and ended with 'And remember me kindly at Peterhoff, that I'm so fond of.' The Emperor pressed Dr. Karel's hand, and said to him, 'It is no fault of yours.' Whilst the Emperor's father confessor was speaking with him, he took the Empress's hand and put it into the priest's, as if he would confide the Empress to the ecclesiastic. After this the Emperor lost his speech for awhile; during which time he was engaged in prayer, and crossed himself repeatedly. He subsequently regained his voice, and spoke from time to time up to his decease; which took place without a struggle, in the presence of the whole family, March 2, at ten minutes past noon. Almost the last articulate words that the Emperor spoke were, 'Dites à Fritz, (King of Prussia) de rester toujours le même pour la Russie, et de ne pas oublier les paroles de papa,' (the late King of Prussia.) Up to the present time the Empress has borne this unexpected and fearful blow with wonderful strength. Yesterday evening she passed an hour entirely alone with the corpse. The consternation which overcame every one at the suddenness of this fearful blow, is now giving place to the feelings of pain and grief."

On the day of the Emperor's death, his successor issued the following manifesto:

"By the grace of God, we, Alexander II., Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, King of Poland, &c. &c.

"We make known to all our faithful subjects—

"In His impenetrable ways, it has pleased God to strike us all with a blow as terrible as it was unexpected. Following a brief but serious illness, which at its close was developed with an unheard-of rapidity, our much-loved father, the Emperor Nicholas Pavlovitch, has departed life this day, the 18th February. No language can express our grief, which is the grief also of our faithful subjects. Submitting with resignation to the impenetrable views of Divine Providence, we seek consolation but in Him, and wait from Him alone the necessary aid to enable us to sustain the burden which it has pleased Him to impose upon us. Even as the much-loved father whom we mourn consecrated all his efforts, every moment of his life, to the labours and to the cares called for by the wellbeing of his subjects, we, at this hour so painful, but also so grave and so solemn, in ascending our hereditary throne of the empire of Russia, of the kingdom of Poland, and of the grand duchy of Finland, which are inseparable, take, in the face of the invisible God always surrounding us, the sacred pledge, never to have any other end but the prosperity of our country. May Providence, who has called us to this high mission, so aid us that, guided and protected by Him, we may be able to strengthen Russia in the highest degree of power and glory; that by us may be accomplished the views and the desires of our illustrious predecessors, Peter, Catherine, Alexander the much-loved, and our august father of imperishable memory."

"By their well-proved zeal, by their prayers ardently united with ours before the altars of the Most High,

our dear subjects will come to our aid. We invite them to do so; commanding them to take at the same time the oath of fidelity both to us and to our heir, his Imperial Highness the Cesarevitch Grand Duke Nicholas Alexandrovitch.

"Given at St. Petersburg, the 18th day of the month of February [2d March] of the year of grace 1855, and the first year of our reign. ALEXANDER."

The young Emperor received the Diplomatic Body on the 7th and delivered to them an address containing some remarkable expressions.

"I am persuaded, gentlemen, that all your courts feel sincere sorrow at the misfortune which has befallen us; I have already received proofs of it from all sides: they have greatly moved me, and I stated yesterday to the Ministers of Prussia and Austria how much I appreciated them. I solemnly declare here before you, gentlemen, that I remain faithful to all the sentiments of my father, and that I will persevere in the line of political principles which served as a rule to my uncle the Emperor Alexander, and to my father. These principles are those of the Holy Alliance. But, if that alliance no longer exists it is certainly not the fault of my father. His intentions were always upright and loyal; and if recently they were misunderstood by some persons, I do not doubt that God and history will do him justice. I am ready to contribute to a good understanding, on the conditions which he accepted. Like him, I desire peace, and wish to see the evils of war terminated: but if the conferences which are about to open at Vienna do not lead to a result honourable for us, then, gentlemen, at the head of my faithful Russia, I will combat, with the whole nation, and I will perish sooner than yield. As to my personal sentiments for your Sovereign [here the Emperor addressed Baron de Werther, Minister of Prussia] they have not varied: I have never doubted the fraternal affection and friendship which his Majesty the King always had for my father, and I told you yesterday how grateful I am to him for it. I am deeply sensible of the kind words which the Emperor has caused to be

transmitted to me on this occasion. [This was addressed to Count Esterhazy, Minister of Austria.] His Majesty cannot doubt the sincere affection which my father entertained for him at an epoch which he himself has recalled by the order of the day addressed to his army. Be kind enough, gentlemen, to communicate my words to your respective courts."

Count Nesselrode has issued, under date March 10, a circular to the ministers of Russia at foreign courts, to inform them of the intentions of the Emperor. Count Nesselrode states that the Emperor, "in a childlike spirit of piety, accepts as his heritage two obligations equally sacred;" to use all his might for the defence of Russia, and to devote himself to the completion of that work of peace the bases of which were sanctioned by the Emperor Nicholas. In order that the intentions of his father may be fulfilled, the Emperor Alexander has renewed the instructions of the Russian plenipotentiary at Vienna. These intentions are thus defined—

"To restore to Russia and Europe the blessings of peace. To confirm the freedom of worship and the welfare of the Christian peoples of the East, without distinction of rite. To place the immunities of the Principalities under a collective guarantee. To secure the free navigation of the Danube in favour of the trade of all nations. To put an end to the rivalries of the Great Powers respecting the East, in such a manner as to preclude the return of new complications. Finally, to come to an understanding with the Great Powers respecting the revision of the treaties by which they have recognised the principle of closing the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, and in this way to arrive at an honourable settlement."

The conferences at Vienna have been proceeding actively. The Russian Minister had agreed to the first two of the points proposed by the Allies as the basis of a negotiation for peace. But the most important point, the adoption of measures to put an end to Russian preponderance in the Black Sea, had not been entered upon.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

HARDLY a single book of mark has appeared during the past month. The leading publications have been romances. From Mr. Kingsley we have an Elizabethan fiction called *Westward Ho!*; from Miss Jekyll, *Constance Herbert*; from a third novelist, *Thorney Hall*; from a fourth, *The Wife's Trials*; from Sam Slick, *Nature and Human Nature*; and the author of "Mary Barton" has published *North and South*. The war supplies some few volumes as usual. Mr. Burckhardt Barker gives us an *Historical Account of the Crimea*; Mr. George Fowler a *History of the War*; a lady who has long resided in the Crimea, and whom this war expelled, has briefly but intelligently described its *Towns and Inhabitants*; a fourth book on the same subject, translated from the journal of a Prussian Professor and botanist, is called *The Crimea and Odessa*; and two sketches by Captain Biddlethorpe have appeared, with letterpress explanations, illustrating the *Assault of Sebastopol*. Some serials, too, are of course continued. Mr. Bell adds the third volume of *Chaucer* to his Annotated Edition of the English Poets; the twelfth volume of Mr. Highe's edition and continuation of *Hume and Smollett* is published; Mr. Bohn adds a volume of *Addison*, a volume of Professor Smyth's *Lectures on Modern History*, the *Exemplary Novels* of Cervantes, and a volume of *Philip de Comines*, to his various Libraries; Mr. Bentley adds to his series the completion of Mr. Jesse's *England Under the Stuarts*; and Sir W. Hamilton issues the sixth volume of his edition of *Dugald Stewart's Works*. But never was the list so scanty of miscellaneous books of interest. Mr. Wrightson publishes a *History of Modern Italy*. Mr. Stirling reproduces from his larger work on the Spanish painters his account, with several additions, of *Velasquez and his Works*. A boy's book of adventures, from the German of Garstaeker, *Frank Wildman*, has been translated by Mr. Lascelles

Wraxall. Doctor Davy has put together, under the title of *The Angler and his Friend*, a series of piscatory colloquies and excursions. The Rev. R. C. Singleton has begun a translation into English rhythm of the *Works of Virgil*. An American writer has published here, a book upon southern life and peculiarities, called *Our World, or the Democrat's Rule*. On the other hand, Mr. Thomas Ryle, in a volume of indignant criticism questions altogether the value of the democrat's rule, that is, of *American Liberty and Government*. Mr. Samuel Bailey writes a first series of *Letters on the Philosophy of the Human Mind*. Dr. Forbes Royle discusses, in a clear practical way, the *Fibrous Plants of India*. Mr. Wathen describes the *Golden Colony*, giving that name to Victoria in 1854. The Rev. J. Taylor publishes an elaborate volume on the *True Doctrine of the Holy Eucharist*. Mr. Montagu Lyon Phillips discusses *Worlds Beyond the Earth*. Mr. W. A. Newman writes a *Life of John Montagu*, intended to illustrate his judicial career, and some recent public affairs, at the Cape of Good Hope. Mr. Oxenford translates *Hellas*, a volume of criticism on the Greeks, from the German of Friedrich Jacobs. Sir George Grey describes the ancient traditional history of the New Zealand race in a volume on *Polynesian Mythology*. From Mrs. West we receive a volume of *Frescoes and Sketches from Memory*. Miss Goldsmid translates from the German of Philippsohn, the *Development of the Religious Idea in Judaism, Christianity, and Mohamedanism*. Mr. Mayor illustrates *Cambridge in the Seventeenth Century*, by reproducing, with enthusiastic notes, contemporary lives of Nicholas Ferrar by his brother John and by Doctor Jebb. And finally (for thus early this month's list comes to its close), we receive from Mr. Buckingham the first and second volumes of his *Autobiography*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 17th inst., £14,201,243.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz.	£3 17 9	Silver bars, stan. per oz.	5 0
Do., dust,	3 16 0	Mexican dollars,	4 11 4

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0·08 prem.	New York	0·33 disct.
Hamburgh	0·53 prem.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 5 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	93 1	90 1	92 3
Three per Cent. Reduced	94	91 1	93 1
New Three per Cents.	94 1	91	93 1
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4 1 6	4 1 6	4 1 6
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	216	213	215
Exchequer Bills, June	9s. p.	3s. p.	6d. p.
India Bonds	11s. p.	10s. p.	11-12 p.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100 all	Brighton & S. Coast	100	97	97·9	65,831
	Blackwall	8 1	7 1	7 1 1	8,712
100 all	Caledonian	64 1	61 1	63 1 4	90,533
100 all	Edin. and Glasgow	58	56	57·9	35,863
	Eastern Counties	11 1	11	11 1 8	155,798
	Gt. Sm. & Wn. (Irel.)	92	89	91·3	44,240
	Great Northern	91 1	88	87 1 8	111,975
100	Great Western	65 1	63 1	65 1	102,682
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	77 1	74 1	76 1	145,123
100	London & N. Westn.	100 1	97 1	99 1 100	378,820
100	London & S. Westn.	86 1	83 1	83 1 4	33,095
100	Midland	70 1	65 1	69 1 70	189,676
	South-East. & Dover	62	58 1	61 2	94,277

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.	RAILWAYS.
Belgian 4½ per cent., 92·4	East Belgian Junct., 1·4
Brazilian 5 per cent., 101·3	Great Luxembourg, 25·6
Chilian 6 per cent., 102·4	Northern of France, 34 1 2
Danish 5 per cent., 101·3	Norwegian Trunk Priv., 82·92
Dutch 2½ per cent., 62·4	Paris and Orleans, 47
Dutch 4 per cent., 94 1	Paris and Lyons, 41 1 2
Mexican 3 per cent., 20 1	Paris and Rouen, 39·41
Peruvian 3 per cent., 49·51	West Flanders, 33·4
Portuguese 4 per cent., 42 1	West of France, 25 1 6
Russian 5 per cent., 99·100	Rouen and Havre, 21 1 2
Spanish 3 per cent., 36 1	
Sardinian 5 per cent., 86 1	

MINES.

Linares	7 1 8	Quartz Rock	4 1 2
Nouveau Mondo	3 1 4	St. John Del Rey	30 2

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.	BANKS.
Australian	1 1 2
Do. Frechgold	1 1 2
Colonial Gold	4 1 2
Port Philip	4 1 2
South Australian	2 1 1

RAILWAYS.

East Indian	22 1 3	Australasian Pacific	7 1
Do. Extension 20 1 2		Australian Royal Mail 23 1 3	
Indian Peninsula	51 1 5	Eastern Steam Navig.	
Madras	20 1 2	General Screw St. Ship 15 1	

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural 30 1 1	North Brit. Australian 2 1
Van Diemen's Land	13 1 2
South Australian Land 26 7	Scottish Austr. Invest. 12 1 2

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Feb. 24	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Mar. 3	69 1	31 5	25 6	41 10	43 2	39 8
— 10	68 0	30 6	25 8	38 7	40 3	39 4
— 17	68 10	30 5	24 10	39 4	40 4	38 6

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	64 to 72	64 to 70	64 to 45	Hay.... per load
Malting Barley	29—30	29—30	29—30	2 10 to 4 15
Oats, best	27—28	27—28	27—28	Clover.... 4 0 to 5 15
Straw	1 4—1 8	1 4—1 8	1 4—1 8	Wheat, White, "
Wheat, White, "	72—80	72—80	72—80	Linsseed cake, per ton, 10 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>
Flour—				to 11 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> ; Rape cake, ditto, 7 <i>l.</i> ; Bones, ditto, 4 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>
Town made, per sk.	60	65	65	10 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> to 20 <i>l.</i> 20 <i>s.</i>
Country household	49—53	49—53	49—53	Kents, 26 <i>l.</i> to 36 <i>l.</i>
American, per barl.	39—44	39—44	39—44	Sussex, 26 <i>l.</i> to 28 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> , 14 <i>l.</i> to 20 <i>l.</i> to 20 <i>s.</i>
Indian Corn, per qr.	42—44	42—44	42—44	Hoops—Kents, 26 <i>l.</i> to 36 <i>l.</i>

CATTLE—	s. s. d. s.			
Beasts, per st. 3	0 to 4	0	0	0
Calves	3	8	4	6
Sheep	3	4	4	6
Pigs	3	0	4	4

Wool, per lb.—				
South Downs	1	0	1	1
Kentish fleeces	1	0	1	1
German Elect.	2	6	3	6
Australian	0	10	2	2
Cape	0	7	1	5
Spanish	1	1	1	11

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 12 <i>l.</i>			
Iron, Pigs, 4 <i>t.</i> 15 <i>l.</i> to 5 <i>t.</i> 0 <i>s.</i>			
Rails, 6 <i>t.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> Lead, English Pig, 2 <i>t.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> Steel, Swedish Keg, 18 <i>t.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> Tin, English block, 11 <i>t.</i> Banca, 10 <i>t.</i> to 11 <i>t.</i> Spelter, 23 <i>t.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> ; Quicksilver, per lb., 1 <i>t.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>			
Rails, 6 <i>t.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> Lead, English Pig, 2 <i>t.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> Steel, Swedish Keg, 18 <i>t.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> Tin, English block, 11 <i>t.</i> Banca, 10 <i>t.</i> to 11 <i>t.</i> Spelter, 23 <i>t.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> ; Quicksilver, per lb., 1 <i>t.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>			
COPPER.			

Cocoa, per cwt., Triinidad, 36 <i>s.</i> to 44 <i>s.</i> ; Bahia, 32 <i>s.</i> to 33 <i>s.</i>				
Coffee, per cwt.—Ceylon Native, 46 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 47 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Do., Plantation, 58 <i>s.</i> to 84 <i>s.</i> ; Mocha, 84 <i>s.</i> to 85 <i>s.</i> ; Jamaica, 70 <i>s.</i> to 84 <i>s.</i> ; Java, 51 <i>s.</i> to 53 <i>s.</i> ; Costa Rica, 49 <i>s.</i> to 72 <i>s.</i> Rice, per cwt.—Carolina duty paid, 25 <i>s.</i> to 36 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bengal, 13 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 15 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Java, 12 <i>s.</i> to 17 <i>s.</i>				
SUGAR—Barbadoes, per cwt., 32 <i>s.</i> to 38 <i>s.</i> ; Mauritius, 30 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 38 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bengal, 35 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 39 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Madras, 27 <i>s.</i> to 29 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Havannah, 31 <i>s.</i> to 39 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>				
DO. REFINED—Grocery lumps, 43 <i>s.</i> to 47 <i>s.</i> ; Bartsards, 25 <i>s.</i> to 25 <i>s.</i> Crushed, 30 <i>s.</i>				
TEA, per lb. (duty 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>)—Congou, 94 <i>s.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Souchong, 10 <i>s.</i> to 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Hyson, 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Assam, 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>				

EMIGRATION RECORD.
DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
January 31	7,359	21	4,180	187	11,747
February	5,197	..	3,862	55	9,054
Total	12,556	21	7,982	242	20,801

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£25 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £22	£2 10 <i>l.</i> £3 5
Sydney	40 — 65	22 — 35	18 — 25	2 5 — 2 10
Adelaide	36 — 62	22 — 33	15 — 24	2 10 — 2 15
Hobart Tn.	36 — 65	22 — 35	15 — 25	2 5 — 2 15

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH MARCH TO THE 27TH APRIL.

[PRICE 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Thursday, March 29, on the third reading of the *Irish Militia Bill*, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH revived two points which he had urged on previous occasions. First, that as we must look for the recruitment of the army mainly to the militia, as we did in the last war, some means should be taken to bring the militia up to the nominal force; secondly, that the commander of the Land Transport Corps in the Crimea should have the power of providing for the feeding of his animals.—Lord PANMURE and Earl GREY did not agree with Lord Ellenborough that the militia should be the nursery of the line. In the last war, the reason why so large a number of recruits for the army passed through the militia was, that the men got higher bounty by first entering the militia than by directly entering the army. As to the second point, if Lord Ellenborough's suggestion were adopted, there would be two commissariats bidding in one market, and neither would properly perform its duties.—The further progress of the bill was postponed.

On Friday, March 30, the house *Adjourned* to Monday, the 16th of April.

On Monday, April 16, the *Charitable Trusts Bill* was read a second time.

On Tuesday, April 17, the *Cambridge University Bill* was read a second time, with the understanding that the discussion should take place on the motion for the committee.

On Tuesday, April 24, the Earl of MALMESBURY put questions to the government respecting the *Negotiations at Vienna*. After taking credit for the forbearance shown by the house in abstaining so long from questions on foreign affairs likely to embarrass the government, he wished to know, now that those negotiations had ceased, the object which the government proposed to itself on entering on a fresh campaign, and what results it would consider equivalent to the expenditure of so much blood and treasure.—The Earl of CLARENDON fully admitted the forbearance evinced on this question by the noble lord and his friends. It was perfectly true the negotiations at Vienna had come to an end, and that Russia refused to treat on the terms proposed by the allies. With respect to the other points referred to by the noble lord, it would not be convenient to enter into them at present, but the house might rely that the government would afford it the earliest information on the subject consistent with the public service.

In reply to Lord HARDWICKE, the Earl of CLARENDON stated that up to Friday last Austria held language on the Eastern Question identical with that of the Allies. The time for anything beyond language had not yet arrived, so that it was impossible to say what course Austria would take.

The house then went into committee on the *Cambridge University Bill*, when the Lord CHANCELLOR explained the object aimed at by the measure.—Lord LYNDHURST regretted the necessity of introducing this bill, though, after the example set last year in the case of Oxford, he supposed such a measure was inevitable. The noble lord then proceeded in an eloquent speech to enumerate the names of the illustrious men which Cambridge had produced under the existing system, and concluded by declaring that, though the bill must pass, he would do everything in his power to make it as perfect a measure as possible, both as regarded the

university and the country. — After some further discussion, in which Lords Powis and Canning took part, the bill passed through committee.

On Thursday, April 26, the Royal Assent was given by commission to a number of bills.

The Earl of HARDWICKE said it was reported that the *Electric Telegraph between London and Balaklava* was very nearly completed, and that the government had actually received a despatch from the seat of war within the last four-and-twenty hours. He ventured to ask whether that report was true, and, if so, whether the government had received any material information that could be communicated to the public?—The Earl of HARROWBY believed that the first lord of the admiralty had that day received a despatch from Balaklava, but its purport was merely to inform him that the communication was open.

The Earl of MALMESBURY, in moving for some returns, urged on the government the expediency of taking steps to restrict the *Exportation of Horses* from the country, during the extensive demand for the supply of our cavalry service, occasioned by the war.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Wednesday, March 28, the second reading of the *Bills of Exchange Bill* was opposed by Mr. VANCE, who moved the second reading that day six months. The amendment was seconded by Mr. MUNTZ.—Sir E. PERRY defended the bill, which was founded, he said, upon sound principles, consistent with those of past law reforms, its object being to do away with fictitious and fraudulent defences.—Mr. GURNEY opposed the bill. Admitting that there were inconveniences in the law which it might be well to remedy, great care, he observed, should be taken that the remedy was not worse than the disease. His opinion was that the bill, while it would benefit a few, would ruin multitudes; that it would give an immense priority and advantage to one class of creditors over others, and have a prejudicial operation upon the character of bills of exchange.—Mr. NAPIER observed that, the principle of the bill being sound one, the possible abuse of its provisions afforded no argument against its utility. The house should not reject, upon the second reading, a measure the object of which was to assimilate the commercial law throughout the united kingdom, preparatory to making it conform to that of the whole commercial world.—Mr. MITCHELL supported the bill, replying to Mr. Gurney and Mr. Muntz, whose objections, he thought, savoured of the Birmingham currency school. He adhered to the doctrine that bills of exchange were preferable to running accounts, and believed that no practical hardship would result from the bill.—Mr. SPOONER opposed the bill. He dwelt upon the injury it would inflict upon retail country traders, who, with ample assets in the shape of book debts, might be ruined by liabilities under bills of exchange. There was no reason, in his opinion, why the holder of a bill should have a better remedy than another creditor.—Mr.

BAINES read a passage from a petition from the Leeds Chamber of Commerce, which contained, he thought, a summary of the arguments in favour of the bill.—Mr. GLYNN believed that so many practical evils attended the bill circulation of this country that some remedy was absolutely necessary, and he concurred with Mr. Baines in thinking that it would be best to send this bill

along with Mr. Keating's, the Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes Bill (which had the same object), to a select committee.—Sir F. THESIGER was ready to consent to the second reading of both bills, upon the understanding that they should be submitted to the same select committee, which might accomplish the object of preventing frauds in commercial transactions of this kind.—The LORD-ADVOCATE, avowing that the bill had his most complete approbation, justified its adoption of the principles of the Scotch law.—Mr. H. KEATING defended the machinery in his own bill, but approved of the suggestion to send both bills to a select committee.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he thought the subject had been pretty well exhausted. That fraudulent defences to bills of exchange were an evil none denied, or that a more summary remedy was necessary, unless great commercial mischief would ensue. Then came the question, which of the two bills, both having the same object, should be adopted? He could not help thinking that there were serious drawbacks upon the Scotch system, which appeared cumbersome and complicated; but, without discussing the relative merits of the two bills, he thought they could not do better than refer them both to a select committee.—The house divided, and the second reading was carried by 114 to 58; the bill was then ordered to be referred to a select committee.

The same course was followed with respect to the Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes Bill.

Mr. FREWEN, in moving the second reading of the *Union of Benefices Bill*, explained the state of the law in regard to pluralities, pointing out what he considered to be its defects and inconsistencies, and stating the remedies he proposed in the bill.—Mr. COWPER said that the changes proposed were unnecessary, and were open to many inconveniences, and that the bill did not carry out the intentions of the mover; he went through the clauses, suggesting, as he proceeded, objections to the details. He moved to defer the second reading for six months.—Mr. R. Phillimore and Mr. Spooner spoke in favour of the second reading of the bill, which was opposed by Mr. Bouvierie and Mr. Henley, and upon a division, the amendment was carried by 112 to 30; so the bill is lost.

Mr. WRIGHTSON moved the second reading of the *Vacating of Seats in Parliament Bill*.—Its further progress was resisted by Mr. W. Williams and Mr. Bankes.—Sir G. GREY defended the bill, the sole object of which was to promote the public convenience, not that of individual members.—Mr. HADFIELD moved to defer the second reading for six months.—The bill was opposed by Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Henley, Sir F. Thesiger, and Lord Lovaine; and supported by Mr. S. Wortley, Mr. B. Denison, and Mr. Deedes. Upon a division, the amendment was carried by 73 to 69; so this bill is lost.

On Thursday, March 29, Mr. SCOTT moved for copies of instructions to the commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean and Black Sea, and correspondence relative to the *Attack on Odessa*. He arraigned the whole policy pursued towards that port, and replied by anticipation to the objections which might be offered to the production of the papers. For the sake of Admiral Dundas himself he wanted to know, he said, what were his instructions, and whether he had or not ample discretion.—Sir C. WOOD said the same reasons which induced him to object altogether to the motion, precluded him from replying to any portion of the speech of Mr. Scott which had the slightest reference to his motion. If there had been any correspondence or instructions upon this subject, to produce them would at once disclose to the enemy the views and intentions of our commanders as to the probability or the reverse of an attack on Odessa. He objected to such disclosures while hostilities were in operation.—Mr. STAFFORD observed that the papers would amply vindicate the admiral, whose silence, he remarked, contrasted favourably with some examples.—Mr. SCOTT disclaimed any intention of casting the slightest slur upon Admiral Dundas.—Lord PALMERSTON said the character of Admiral Dundas stood high as an officer of her Majesty's naval service, and there was no part of his conduct while employed that had not done honour to him.

Mr. H. BERKLEY moved an address to her Majesty,

praying that she will be pleased to order a *Court Martial* on Earl Lucan for ordering a charge of the Light Cavalry at the battle of Balaklava. The object of the motion, he said, was to ascertain the cause of the destruction of 300 as gallant men as ever drew sword or put foot in stirrup, who appeared to have been wantonly sacrificed; he asked not for a committee of that house, but for the proper tribunal for such an inquiry—namely, a court-martial. He had no animosity or personal feeling in this matter; he had no charge to make against the honour or courage of Lord Lucan; he would admit both to be undoubted; but he believed inquiry to be called for, and this was the only course he could take to obtain it. He then proceeded to detail the particulars of the battle of Balaklava and the order issued by Lord Raglan, observing that the more that order was analysed the clearer did Lord Raglan's intentions become. In the first place, no order was given to charge by Lord Raglan, but to follow and try to prevent the enemy from carrying away the guns. The mode of doing this was left entirely to Lord Lucan. The order could not apply to stationary force, and the permission to send for a troop of artillery showed further the real intention of Lord Raglan. The fact was, Mr. Berkeley said, that Lord Lucan was ordered to do one thing, the necessity for which had passed away, and, on his own responsibility, he did another, and that the worst thing he could have done. He then related the transmission of the order to Lord Cardigan (upon whose military character he pronounced a very high eulogium); the demur of Lord Cardigan upon the receipt of the order, who pointed out the desperate nature of the attack; and the fatal issue of the charge. In conclusion, he submitted to the house that he had made out a case for inquiry, which Lord Lucan himself gallantly desired, and, if he could justify himself, a court-martial was the proper place.—LORD ELCHO seconded the motion, observing that Lord Lucan courted inquiry into his conduct, and he (Lord Elcho) was never more firmly convinced of anything than that Lord Lucan was a grossly wronged and injured man.—MR. C. VILLIERS said he took issue with the mover and seconder upon the question as to Lord Lucan's right to inquiry in this matter. This did not come under the character of an original motion, but under that of an appeal from a decision given by the crown, by the advice of the competent authorities. The question might have been raised in another form; but it had been raised upon the precise point decided by the authorities, with a perfect knowledge that it had been already decided, and of what were the reasons assigned for the refusal of a court-martial. He briefly stated the case, which had been submitted to the legal authorities, and the reasons for refusing inquiry. No officer, he observed, had a right to insist upon a court-martial; an officer might be dismissed without reason assigned. In Lord Lucan's case no military offence had been proved or alleged, and, if he had offended, he had been continued to be employed after the offence; and where an offence has been overlooked, it is a good leading bar to any proceeding against the party, who could not be subjected to a court-martial for the offence so overlooked. Independently of this legal objection, the inquiry would be inexpedient. It could not be instituted at home, and it was obvious that it must be deferred until the war was over. The whole question was whether Lord Raglan had exercised his discretion wisely. Lord Italian did not complain of Lord Lucan; all he said was that in the particular charge in question he had misconceived his order. Commanders-in-chief must be invested with very large discretion, and if Lord Raglan had exercised his discretion unworthily, Lord Lucan was not without his remedy.—MR. DISRAELI hoped the motion would not be pressed to a division. Although he sympathised with the feelings of Lord Lucan, whose qualities entitled him to public respect, the house, in regard to this motion, must, he said, look to its nature. If there had been denial of justice, it would be the duty of the house to consider the case; but he could not conceive that this was a case in which it ought to interfere with the prerogative of the crown. There was one point upon which he thought the house of commons had a right to complain—namely, that when the thanks

of the house were voted to this gallant officer, the minister of war was in possession of facts which, in his opinion, justified him in recalling him in disgrace. Either this was not acting fairly to the house of commons, or it was acting unjustly towards Lord Lucan. He did not think the motion was one which the house ought to sanction.—LORD PALMERSTON observed that nothing had passed in the debate which could be considered as casting any imputation upon the military character of Lord Lucan. The house ought not to forget that the command of the army was by the constitution vested in the crown, and if it fell into the habit of interfering with the discipline of the army, great injury would ensue. The present was a case in which it was impossible for the crown to grant a court-martial upon general and particular considerations. The vote of thanks to Lord Lucan placed his character as high as his best friends could desire, and the ground of his recall was simply a personal difference between him and his commanding officer, which rendered it impossible that they could usefully act together.—MR. BERKELEY then withdrew his motion.

SIR W. CLAY, in moving for leave to bring in a bill for the *Abolition of Church Rates*, stated its character and objects. The main element of the bill was the entire abolition of these rates, in which respect it was similar to the bill of last year; and it contained like that a provision for the maintenance of church-rates where they were legally charged under acts of parliament. The main provisions of this bill were—first, to remove all difficulties in the way of applying the principle of enabling the members of the church of England to maintain the fabrics of their churches and the administration of their services; secondly, to empower parishes to allot a certain portion of the area of the church to pews, and to apply the rents to the purposes to which church-rates were now applied, a proportion of the area to be appropriated to free sitings.—MR. WIGRAM said this bill, which in object and principle was the same as that of last year, was founded on no plea of justice or necessity. The land of the country was liable to the common law obligation of maintaining the fabric of the churches of the country. He opposed the introduction of the bill.—MR. R. PHILLIMORE did not object to the first reading of the bill, but condemned the project of letting pews to the best bidders as continuing the very worst anomaly in the church of England.—LORD STANLEY observed that everybody agreed that the present state of the law was unsatisfactory. Repeated attempts had been made to amend it, which had failed, and, in the absence of a satisfactory measure, he thought the house would not be justified in refusing to entertain one that dealt with the question in the only manner in which it could be effectually met. The question of pew-rents was very much a matter of detail, so, without pledging himself to the approbation of this measure, he thought the house was at least bound to give it a fair consideration in the absence of any other proposition to amend the law.—LORD PALMERSTON observed that this question was beset with great difficulties, and they were of two kinds. It was difficult to maintain the law as it was, and it was extremely difficult to alter it in a satisfactory manner. Those who said that the maintenance of the fabric of the church was part of the law of the land should recollect, he said, that by a recent decision there was no power of enforcing it. Some alteration of the law was therefore desirable, even in the interest of the established church. When it was said that this bill was identical with that of last year, he did not think that quite correct. Some modifications had been shadowed out as contained in the present bill, and he should oppose its introduction.—After some further discussion, the house divided, when the motion was carried by 155 to 76.

On Friday, March 30, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL obtained leave to bring in a bill for *Abolishing the Jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts over Wills and Administrations*; and MR. ELLICE to bring in a bill for the *Better Administration of the Poor Law in Scotland*. The house adjourned till the 16th of April.

On Monday, April 16th, a great number of petitions were presented in favour of a *Halfpenny Newspaper Stamp*.

The *Metropolis Local Management Bill* was read a second time, after a slight discussion.

The house went into a committee of supply upon the *Civil Service Estimates*, when several votes were agreed to; a vote of 100,000*l.*, on account of *Public Education in Great Britain*, was also agreed to.

On Tuesday, April 17th, additional petitions were presented in favour of a *Halfpenny Newspaper Stamp*.

Colonel BOLDREY, after commenting on the deficiencies of the *Medical Departments in the Army and Navy*, illustrated by the evidence given before the Sebastopol Committee, moved for a select committee to inquire into the state of those departments. The motion was seconded by SIR JOHN TROLLOPE, who contended for the establishment of a Medical Board, and the abolition of the useless, elaborate, and unwieldy books and forms now in use. The best thing (he said) to be done with them would be to burn them in the barracks square.—MR. PEEL objected to inquiry, on the ground that the state of the medical department, if not the special subject of inquiry by the Sebastopol Committee, is embraced in its scope. If that inquiry should prove incomplete, it would then be time to appoint another committee. The measures of the government—by concentrating power over the other authorities in the hands of the minister of war; by the appointment of a medical board, including a civilian among its members; by the establishment of professorships of military surgery at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin; by the establishment of a regular hospital corps; and by rendering the purveyors subordinate to the medical authorities,—by these measures the government had superseded the necessity for this committee.—The motion was supported by MR. BRADY, MR. MUNTZ, MR. MONTAGUE CHAMBERS, and SIR GEORGE PECHELL; and opposed by ADMIRAL BERKELEY, MR. ELLICE, and SIR GEORGE GREY.

With regard to the navy it was complained that a large number of young and incompetent men had been sent out to the Baltic; but SIR GEORGE GREY explained that a certain number of pupils have been appointed to do duty with that fleet, not as surgeons or assistant-surgeons, but as supernumeraries. The fleet has its full complement of surgeons and assistant-surgeons; and these dressers were sent out that they may qualify by practice for the office of assistant-surgeons hereafter.—On a division, the motion was negatived by the majority of 73 to 69.

Lord R. GROSVENOR moved for leave to bring in a bill for the prevention of unnecessary *Sunday Trading in the Metropolis*. As he understood the bill would not be opposed, he postponed the explanation of its details till the second reading.—LORD EBRINGTON seconded the motion on religious, social, and economical grounds.—Leave was given to bring in the bill.

On Wednesday, April 18, the *Intestacy (Scotland) Bill* was read a second time, MR. DUNLOP, who had charge of the measure, explaining that it was designed merely to assimilate the law of Scotland with that of England, as regarded the disposal of intestate estates.

The second reading of the *Sea Coast Fisheries (Ireland) Bill* was moved by MR. M'MAHON, and opposed by MR. NAPIER, who contended that the measure was designed to benefit a small class of Wexford fishermen, and would seriously compromise extensive vested interests. He moved as an amendment that the bill should be read a second time that day six months.—After some discussion a division was called, when there appeared for the motion, 19; for the amendment, 145. The bill was consequently rejected.

Mr. SERJEANT SHEE moved the second reading of the *Tenants' Improvements Compensation Bill*, suggesting that the measure should be allowed to pass the pending stage, and the discussion, which the house was so evidently not then disposed to undertake, should be postponed until the bill came on for committal.—This arrangement was ratified by MR. HORSMAN, on the part of the government; but was criticised by MR. NAPIER and MR. WHITESIDE; and the collateral discussion respecting the course which ought to be sanctioned was protracted until a quarter to six o'clock, when the debate stood adjourned in conformity with the customary rule for the Wednesday sittings.

On the motion of MR. STAFFORD, it was agreed that the

house should adjourn over until Friday, in consequence of the Festivities attending the Visit of the French Emperor and Empress.

On Friday, April 20, in a committee of supply the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made his *Financial Statement*, assigning as a reason for its postponement until so advanced a period of the session, the embarrassments occasioned by ministerial modifications, and the hopes that had been entertained of some satisfactory result from the Vienna negotiations. He stated the past and estimated the future position of the national exchequer. At the beginning of last year the existing sources of revenue were expected to produce £53,349,000. New taxes were afterwards imposed, with the estimated effect of raising the aggregate revenue to £59,494,000. The actual product had been £59,494,144., which, together with the issues of exchequer bills and bonds, had given a gross receipt of £66,621,000., leaving a surplus on the year's expenditure of about one million. For the current year the various heads of expenses were computed at—For interest on the debt, £27,947,000.; army, £16,214,000.; navy, £16,653,000.; and ordnance, £7,808,000. He proposed taking a vote on credit for contingent surplus outlay on the military service to the amount of three millions, and computed the charges for civil service at six and a half millions. The ordinary supply services of the year would thus involve an expenditure of £50,175,000., which would be extended by the interest on debt, the Sardinian loan, and other extraordinaries, to a gross total of about eighty-two millions. Adding to this estimate the sum of £4,400,000., to cover any possible excess in the outlay for the war, Sir G. C. Lewis arrived at the conclusion that the whole sum for which he must provide during the year was £66,339,000. He then adverted to the produce of the revenues, whose amount he computed to reach £63,339,000., thus derived:—From excise £17,070,000.; stamps (deducting £180,000. anticipated loss on newspaper stamps), £6,815,000.; land and assessed taxes, £2,920,000.; income tax, £13,505,000.; post-office, £1,150,000.; increased postage of newspapers and paper duty, £288,000.; crown lands, £260,000.; and miscellaneous, £800,000. A deficit of twenty-three millions was then left, for which the government were called upon to find ways and means of providing. Alluding to the objections that had been urged against the principle of a national loan, and citing the authority of Mr. Hume on that point, the chancellor of the exchequer declared that it was not always possible, or if possible not expedient, to raise the whole annual expenditure of the country by taxes levied within the year. The encroachment upon the savings of industry caused by exorbitant taxation was more injurious under certain circumstances than the abstraction of capital by a loan. The government had, accordingly resolved to supply some portion of the deficiency in the revenue by borrowing money. After recapitulating the incidents which had accompanied the gradual increase of the national debt, and stating that since the peace of 1815, and up to the 1st of January last, the capital of the debt had been diminished by sixty-four millions, viz., from £15 millions to £51 millions, the chancellor of the exchequer described the various forms and processes in which successive loans had been contracted, and the contrivances that had been adopted with the view, as it was hoped, of providing for a gradual diminution and ultimate extinction of the liability incurred. Among these devices was the sinking fund, which he characterised as a delusion, and the system of terminable annuities, which presented many abstract advantages, but was subject to some practical inconveniences, and could not be employed to any great extent owing to the unmarketable character of the securities so created. Admitting that the government would have preferred a loan on the present occasion in that description of stock, he remarked that it had been impracticable to raise all the money required upon any reasonable terms by terminable annuities, and accordingly the great bulk of the loan which had been that day effected was contracted in a permanent Three per cent. stock. It was, however, intended to insert a provision in the bill sanctioning the transaction by which the minister of the day would be held bound within a year of the conclusion of peace to provide a sum of one

million per annum for the purpose of gradually extinguishing the new debt now incurred. Sixteen millions would be thus raised by borrowing; and in addition the government propose to augment the revenue from taxation by a sum of £5,300,000. The increment was to be thus arranged:—On sugar, the duty would be increased by 3s. per cwt. on the average, which was computed to produce £1,200,000. On coffee, the duty would be increased by 1d. per lb.—namely, from 3d. to 4d., from which £150,000. was expected. On tea, besides the postponement of reductions already sanctioned, he proposed to again partially augment the duty making it 1s. 9d. per lb., and producing an addition of £750,000. to the revenue. The total amount of increased income from the custom duties would be £2,100,000. In stamps he proposed to make no further alteration than by the withdrawal of the exemption in favour of certain bankers' cheques, and expected to obtain £200,000. per annum by the change. With regard to spirits he should propose to assimilate the duties paid on the Scotch and English products, making the tariff for both 7s. 10d. per gallon, and to raise the excise on Irish spirits from 4s. to 6s. per gallon. From this source he anticipated one million additional revenue, and the whole increased product from the indirect taxes would be £3,300,000. The remaining two millions it was intended to raise from the series of direct taxation, selecting for augmentation the income tax, and increasing the amount of that impost by one per cent., or 2d. in the pound in all instances. In addition to these receipts from loans and taxation he proposed to ask leave to issue Exchequer bills to the same amount as the surplus credit for military services—namely, three millions—which means the whole probable expenditure of the year would be defrayed. The chancellor of the exchequer concluded by describing the terms on which the new loan had been contracted, and contended that they bore a favourable comparison with those presented in any previous transaction of similar character.—The formal resolution sanctioning the issue of the new loan, having been put from the chair, Mr. LAING said it was plain that they were now at the commencement of a series of loans, and it behoved the house, therefore, to see that they were effected on right principles. He considered that the proposal to pay off this loan by £1,000,000. a year after the war was over, was a mere delusion, and he strongly urged the superior advantages of terminable annuities. The difference between terminable and perpetual securities, was, after all, only a question of price. He considered the terms of the loan not so favourable as they might have been from the abundance of money in the market, partly caused by the sale of government stock, and partly by borrowing in the three per cent. stock, which had sunk down the old stock to the extent of from two to three per cent. He also regretted that the chancellor of the exchequer had not appealed to the public at large for the loan. With regard to the new taxes, he hoped the house would make a stand against increasing the duties on sugar, tea, and coffee, especially as an increase of the income tax to ten per cent. would have given the whole sum required.—Mr. GLADSTONE reminded the committee that by affirming the resolution then proposed they would pledge themselves finally both to the principle and the details of the new loan. He was not prepared to withhold his assent to the transaction generally, but wished to have the resolution amended so as to postpone any decision upon the arrangements suggested for the ultimate repayment of the debt. Proceeding to criticise some of the features of the financial scheme just laid before the house, the right hon. gentleman objected to the further enhancement in the tariff of the income tax at this early period of the war; and on the abstract question of loans, admitted that exigencies often arose in which it would prove highly injurious to attempt to raise an augmented revenue by a sudden enhancement of taxation. He regretted the presentation of the annual budget had not been postponed for a short time longer, seeing that in a few hours or days the issue of the conferences now pending at Vienna must be known, and claimed on his part full liberty as to the judgment he should pronounce on the general conduct of the ministry, either with

relation to the negotiations or the war, notwithstanding the affirmative vote he should give to the resolutions then proposed.—Sir FITZROY KELLY complained that the loan borrowed on the proposed scheme could not be paid off except at a loss to the country of 1,600,000*l.* Had the right hon. gentleman proposed a loan with a power of being paid off at six or twelve months, he might have obtained all he required at a rate of not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., which would have been much more to the public advantage. He would not, however, oppose the resolution; but he hoped, if they were again obliged to have recourse to the money market, it would be on very different terms.—Mr. WILLIAMS objected to the increase of the three per cent. stock.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr. Gladstone, declined to withdraw the clause in the loan at present, but said it would be in the power of the house to withdraw it, if it thought fit, on the second reading of the bill. He denied that this loan was a losing bargain for the government since they gained 10*l.* for every 100*l.* stock.—Mr. J. HEYWORTH objected to the increase of indirect taxation.—Mr. BAILLIE opposed and Mr. WILKINSON supported the resolution.—Mr. M'GREGOR objected to the loan, and to every part of the budget. He considered this budget the worst that had ever been submitted to the country; and he believed that his intelligence and his knowledge were appreciated by the country at large, notwithstanding the self-complacent sneers of the treasury benches.—Mr. MUNTZ justified the propriety of calling upon posterity to pay their portion of the expenses of this war, because it was a war expressly for the benefit of posterity; but he objected to the terms on which the loan was contracted, and to the public inconvenience arising from the increase of indirect taxation.—In answer to Mr. Hildyard, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he meant the increase of 2*d.* in the pound on the income-tax to apply to incomes both above and below 150*l.*—Mr. MASTERMAN warmly supported the terms of the loan, and he was only surprised that the public had got so good a bargain.—After a few words from Mr. Thorneley and Mr. Malins, the resolution was agreed to, as were the other resolutions, and the house resumed.

Mr. BENTINCK, remarking that one of the members of the *Sebastopol Inquiry Committee*, Mr. J. Ball, had taken office under government, moved that Captain Scobell should be nominated in his place on the committee.—Mr. ROEBUCK observed that as Mr. Ball had originally been appointed as a representative of the government on that committee, it should be left with the government also to name its successor. The hon. member for Limerick (Mr. De Vere) had already been selected for that purpose.—A lively discussion followed involving the personal and professional qualifications of the respective hon. members who were proposed for the vacancy in the committee of inquiry. The motion that the name of Mr. Ball should be discharged from the list was agreed to, and a division finally took place on the resolution moved by Mr. Bentinck for inserting the name of Captain Scobell. There appeared for the resolution 68; against it, 81: majority against the appointment of Captain Scobell, 13.

On Monday, April 23, Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to questions put by Mr. Bright respecting the result of the *Negotiations at Vienna*, said that, it was well known that the English and French governments, in concert with the government of Austria, had determined that the proper development of the principle of the third point was the cessation of the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, and that principle had been acceded to by the Russian plenipotentiary. At the conference on Thursday last it had been proposed to Russia, as a mode of making the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea to cease, either that the amount of the Russian naval force in that sea should be limited by treaty, or that the Black Sea should be declared neutral and all ships of war be excluded. The Russian plenipotentiary required 48 hours for considering this proposition; that term elapsed on Saturday, when, at another conference, he absolutely refused to accept either of the alternatives which had been unanimously pressed upon him by the other four plenipotentiaries, making no counter proposition on the part of the

government of Russia. The conferences were thereupon adjourned *sine die*.

On the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, a debate took place on the subject of the *Loan*. Mr. GOULBURN said, he did not mean to offer any objection to the contract for the loan, which appeared in its terms fair to the contractors, and not unfair to the public; but he was anxious to point out what he considered to be a defect in the principle of the loan. The objection to a loan was, that it was throwing a burden upon posterity; but in this case the burden was increased by an obligation to redeem the principal by a million a-year. Was it in the least degree probable that parliament would consent to raise this sum for sixteen years for the repayment of this loan? In former cases it had not adhered to its resolution to maintain a sinking fund, and the proposed clause would only make the house ridiculous in the eyes of the country. He was bound, therefore, to take the loan as an irredeemable annuity, and he thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer would have acted a wiser part if he had made an offer for the loan in the New Three per Cent. Annuities which were redeemable in 1874, instead of in consols. As it was likely, in his opinion, that the interest of money would fall, care should have been taken not to preclude the country from this advantage. He doubted whether the public would derive ultimately advantage from the other part of the loan in terminable annuities. Annuities were now obtainable with more facility than heretofore, and this new class of terminable annuities being brought into the general market the advantage gained by the government on one side would be lost on the other.—Mr. T. BARING expressed his surprise that Mr. Goulburn should oppose a resolution providing for the repayment, in time of peace, of money borrowed in time of war, which was built upon the sound rule that it was the duty of parliament and the country to discharge an obligation incurred in a season of exigency. As to the suggestion that the loan would have been borrowed better in the New Three per Cents., the amount of that stock was 250,000,000*l.*, and the minister of the day would have enough to do in dealing with that amount. The principle of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's plan was, he thought, an honest one, and he hoped he would persist in his resolution that 1,000,000*l.* annually should be set apart after the war to redeem the loan, as at least a record of the intention of parliament.—Mr. GLADSTONE agreed that it was not possible for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to have contracted for so large a sum in the form of terminable annuities. Mr. Baring, he thought, had not been just to Mr. Goulburn, who concurred with him in the necessity of maintaining a surplus revenue applicable to the reduction of debt. The question between them was, whether this clause would practically assist in effecting that object. Future parliaments might question the right of the present to fetter their discretion by prescribing the particular amount and form of investment, although it might be prudent to lay out the money in another manner.—Mr. LAING repeated his objection to contracting a loan in the ordinary Three per Cent. consols, because it sacrificed the opportunity of reducing the interest, and because the present price of the ordinary Three per Cent. consols stock was artificial.—Mr. James M'Gregor, Mr. Hankey, and Mr. Wilkinson, made some brief observations, and Mr. Cardwell explained and defended what had been suggested by Mr. Goulburn.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, with reference to the remarks of Mr. GLADSTONE, repeated what he had said on Friday, that the question as to the appropriation of an annual million to the redemption of the debt was open to the discretion of the house. The proposition had been deliberately considered by the government, who intended to adhere to it. The house could not make an irrevocable law binding upon future parliaments; but the effect of this clause was to create a permanent charge upon the consolidated fund, and it would be the duty of every government to make provision for the payment of this sum out of the ways and means of the year, until parliament, which could provide for any emergency, saw fit to unbind its hands. To the objection of Mr. Goulburn, that the loan should have been contracted in

the New Three per Cents., on the ground that the interest might have been reduced without notice, he replied that he was not sanguine as to the possibility, in the lifetime of the present generation, of reducing the interest of the Three per Cent. stocks; but, if the government should have a surplus revenue, it could go into the market and buy its own perpetual annuities.—The discussion then took the form of a debate when the house was in committee, questions being put and explanations given, fresh topics arising as each resolution was read. The report was ultimately agreed to.

On the order for going into committee upon the *Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill*, Mr. COWAN and Mr. BARROW offered some suggestions in favour of the repeal of the restrictions upon the number of sheets and the dimensions of newspapers or other periodical publications; and of the conveyance of all printed matter through the post-office at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ for every two ounces.—The house then went into committee on the bill.—On the second clause, enacting that periodical publications printed on paper stamped for denoting the rate of duty now imposed on newspapers shall be entitled to transmission and re-transmission by the post, Mr. COLLIER moved to amend the clause by the insertion of words enacting that, instead of $1d.$, a duty of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ be imposed, and that $\frac{1}{2}d.$ be paid on each transmission by the post of all periodical publications.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, this bill was limited to the removal of the difficulties which had arisen in the enforcement of the law, the object of the government being to make no further alterations than were necessary to accomplish that end. The great objection to the measure on the second reading was, that it would endanger a large amount of revenue. Since then a further question had arisen as to the reduction of the duty of $1d.$ to $\frac{1}{2}d.$, which, it had been contended, would increase the revenue. It was possible, he observed, that this expectation might be realised; but it was founded upon most uncertain *data*, and the government felt bound to adhere to their original proposition. He pointed out certain practical difficulties in the way of Mr. Collier's proposal, which he opposed.—The amendment was withdrawn, and the clause agreed to.—On the 4th clause, authorising the registration of periodical publications, if desired, in the same manner as newspapers are now required to be, Mr. WHITESIDE proposed to make registration compulsory.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER had no objection to postpone the clauses relating to registration and securities, in order to reconsider the whole subject, and to reframe the clauses.—The 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th clauses were accordingly postponed. The other clauses in the bill were agreed to, and the chairman was ordered to report progress, the consideration of the new clauses being deferred until the committee sat again, on Monday next.

On the motion of Mr. Bentinck, Captain Gladstone, after some opposition, was named a member of *Mr. Roebuck's Committee*.

On Tuesday, April, 24th, Mr. HEYWOOD introduced the subject of *National Education*. He moved a resolution, pledging the house to resolve itself into a committee to consider such clauses of the Act of Uniformity of 1662 as impose religious tests limiting the advantages of academical, or grammar, or free school education; and so much of any regulations of national institutions, either in England or Ireland, as impose religious tests as conditions or qualifications for any advantages connected with education in the English or Irish universities or public schools. He dwelt upon the injurious effects of these restrictions, the removal of which, he believed, would be of great national advantage, by bringing forward a large number of able men capable of rendering efficient services to the state.—The motion was seconded by Sir E. Perry.—Lord PALMERSTON observed that the motion divided itself into two distinct propositions—one, the consideration of those parts of the act which required religious tests for schoolmasters and tutors in private families; the other would go to disturb the settlement made last year with regard to the university of Oxford. As to the first he had no hesitation in going along with Mr. Heywood; he thought those obsolete provisions might with great advantage be swept away. In respect to the second proposition, he was of opinion

that it would not be right for parliament to interfere and disturb the settlement of last year until some practical experience had been had of its working, and he was not disposed to go along with Mr. Heywood in that part of his motion. Nevertheless, he should not oppose the resolution, but his acquiescence must not commit him to its full extent, but the government would be at full liberty to object to any part of the proposed arrangement.—Mr. GLADSTONE considered the declaration of the noble lord to be quite fair and satisfactory; but he was disposed to urge upon Mr. Heywood the expediency of limiting his motion, as suggested, forthwith. So far as regarded the university of Oxford, after the settlement of last year, he should feel it to be his duty to resist, in every stage, any attempt to interfere with that settlement. Acts of Parliament unsettling old institutions should be rare; a very strong case was required for such interference. He again recommended Mr. Heywood to accede to the suggestion of Lord Palmerston.—Lord J. MANNERS remarked that Lord Palmerston had not referred to a third and very important part of the motion, relating to endowed grammar schools. After some further discussion—Mr. HEYWOOD offered to expunge all the words of his motion after "religious tests," and, objections being made to this amendment, as rendering the motion more vague and objectionable, he proposed to include the succeeding words, down to "free school education;" but, the house refusing him permission to withdraw the motion for the purpose of introducing it in an amended form, it was lost altogether.

Mr. PELLATT moved a long series of returns, under no fewer than twenty-two heads, relating to appointments, informations, cases, memorials, briefs, reports, &c., connected with the *Charity Commission*.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL characterised the motion as an extraordinary one, and the mover as the puppet of a discontented solicitor, commenting upon the covert insinuations and the groundless imputations conveyed in certain parts of the motion. The greater part of the returns, he observed, were already on the table of the house, and the rest would be so voluminous that their preparation would be costly. After a remark by Mr. G. H. Vernon, the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. H. BAILLIE called attention to the system under which the *Post-Office* is administered, and moved that the orders given by the treasury to the post-master-general in the year 1848, to establish a post-office communication at the expense of his department between the islands of North and South Uist, Harris, and Barra, be carried into effect without delay. At the close of his speech the house was counted out at a few minutes after seven o'clock.

On Wednesday, April 25th, the question of the second reading of the *Marriage Law Amendment Bill* gave rise to a debate of considerable interest. Mr. WALPOLE, in moving to defer the second reading for six months, observed that the bill, which would materially affect, religiously, morally, and socially, some of the closest relations of life, proposed to introduce a law or custom entirely new to this country; and those who proposed the change should assign strong, cogent, and irresistible reasons for it. Was the change really called for? By the people of Scotland (which was excluded from the bill) it was regarded with horror. The great bulk of the people of Ireland, protestants and Roman catholics, disliked such marriages as the bill would legalise. In England the great majority of the laity and clergy thought them wrong, and 11,000 of the women of England had petitioned against a change of the law. The reasons alleged for it might be classed, he said, under two heads: it was argued, first, that the present prohibition imposed an undue restraint upon natural sympathy or religious freedom; secondly, that, by the continuance of the law as it stood, a widower was deprived of the opportunity of providing the best guardian for his orphan family. His general answers to these arguments were—that nothing could be an undue restraint upon religious liberty which was consistent with the feelings of moral purity or the injunctions of religious truth; and that, agreeing that generally the ant was the best guardian of an orphan family, it was for that reason he would not turn her into a bad step-

mother. Mr. Walpole then proceeded, at considerable length, to discuss these arguments more in detail, on both grounds, religious and social, and, in conclusion, implored the house to reject a measure that would sacrifice the interests of the many to the wishes of a few, and lead to ulterior consequences at which its advocates, if they could perceive them, would tremble.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, after stating the arguments on both sides, upon the religious point insisted that the Levitical law contained no prohibition of these marriages, but, on the contrary, conveyed an opposite meaning; that that law, which was adapted to a people among whom the practice of polygamy existed, applied to a time when the wife was living, and the Hebrews always considered these marriages as not forbidden, but permitted by their law. Looking at the general opinion of the Christian world, he found it, he said, divided in opinion as to the construction of the Levitical law, and, in this state of things, instead of one party striving to impose its own views dogmatically upon others, every man should be left to the exercise of his own conscience in such a matter. With regard to the social evils predicted as the result of this change of the law, he should be the last man, he declared, to seek such a change if he believed it would produce the fatal consequences anticipated by Mr. Walpole; but his own theory he found confirmed by the best experience throughout the civilised world. Reversing the picture, he endeavoured to show that, while the evils apprehended from an alteration of the law were imaginary, the disastrous consequences of maintaining the existing prohibition were real, and he should vote for its repeal, as mischievous, uncalled for, and tyrannical.—Mr. WIGRAM observed that, whether the interpretation put upon the Levitical law was correct or not, the existing law ought not to be lightly disturbed, which might throw the law of marriage into an unsettled state, which was a circumstance of great importance to the general morals of society.—Mr. COLLIER remarked, that the high ground upon which this change of the law had been originally opposed, namely, that it was repugnant to the law of God, had been evacuated by its opponents, who now sought to throw upon the advocates of the bill the onus of making out a justification of the change it proposed. But he maintained, on the contrary, that the party supporting a prohibition in restraint of marriage were bound to justify it. He insisted that the Scripture did not furnish a foundation for the prohibition, that the canon law could not be made the basis of our legislation, and that the social considerations put forward as objections to the measure were matters of taste and sentiment.—Mr. NAPIER denied that the religious ground had been abandoned by the opponents of the bill; his own opposition was founded upon a conviction that the present law was based upon the law of God, and while he would not assume the awful responsibility of laying down a law of man that might be repugnant to the Divine injunction, he would not incur the guilt of perilling social blessings now enjoyed by degrading our law to meet the requirements of the passions of a few, and not, as alleged, the interests of the poor. Mr. NAPIER appealed to many authorities, lay as well as ecclesiastical, in support of his objection upon religious grounds, to a change of the law, arguing this point at much length, reinforcing his argument by an enumeration of the evil consequences in a social view which would, in his opinion, follow a change at variance with the views of the reformers of our church.—Mr. MILNES supported the bill, believing, he said, that the moral sense of the people demanded such an alteration of the marriage law. There was the strongest distinction, he observed, between upholding the advisability of those marriages and their prohibition by law. He warned the house that, before long, there would be an immense mass of property dependent upon contracts of marriage which the law declared illegal and public opinion regarded as legal.—Mr. SEYMER, after remarking that the Attorney-General in supporting this bill, appeared as an advocate of an *ex-post-facto* law, legalising acts of perjury, said, of all the shanks which ever came before parliament none was greater than the plea that this bill was for the benefit of the poor; if the poor were the

only party concerned, he believed the house would never have heard of this bill. This was the first attempt, he observed, to set the law of the land in opposition to that of the church, and he pointed out the inconvenient position in which the bill would place the established clergy, one class marrying within these degrees of affinity, and another refusing to marry. Having reviewed the arguments urged in support of the bill—contending that the balance was in favour of the present law—he commented upon some points in the bill itself, dwelling upon the significant exclusion of Scotland from its operation.—Mr. T. CHAMBERS, putting out of consideration the evils attributed to the existing law on one side, and those predicted at the result of a change on the other, held that the whole question should be governed by the religious view of it—was marriage within these degrees prohibited by Scripture, or not? He denied that these marriages were forbidden by the 18th chapter of Leviticus, which Mr. Napier only contended forbade them inferentially. To the authorities cited by that gentleman he opposed the testimony of the chief rabbi of the Jews, whence it appeared that these marriages were preferable rather than otherwise. If, as he maintained, these contracts were not unlawful by the Word of God, then let every man act upon his own conscience in the matter.—Mr. WHITENDE, in reply to Mr. Chambers, showed that the traditional law of the Jews did prohibit the marriage with two sisters in succession, and he cited *Philo-Judeus*, who stated that, by the ancient law of the Jews, a man could not marry two sisters, either at the same time or at different periods. He strongly opposed the bill, which could never, he said, become the law of the land. The debate was adjourned until the 9th of May.

On Thursday, April 26, Lord PALMERSON stated that huts for 10,000 men would be erected at Aldershot. In the camp to be formed there would be included twenty regiments of militia, a few troops of the line, three battalions of field artillery, and some troops of cavalry, but no yeomanry.

A series of questions respecting the telegraph between England and the camp before Sebastopol elicited statements from Lord Palmerston and Sir C. Wood to the effect that the telegraphic communication, although not quite perfect, was sufficiently advanced to transmit messages between London and the Crimea in twenty-four hours. Two messages had been received during the course of that and the preceding day, but they contained no information respecting the progress of the siege. The naval and military commanders-in-chief were to be instructed to forward communications on that subject from day to day.

A series of bills, involving the several propositions comprised in the recent financial statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, were then successively brought forward for second reading. Some miscellaneous comments were offered upon the details of each bill as it was presented, but ultimately the whole series were read a second time, one after the other, without serious opposition.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Thursday, March 29.—Intramural Burials (Ireland) Bill read a second time. Court of Chancery Bill read a third time and passed.

30th.—Becleshead Courts Bill committed. Charitable Trusts Bill read a first time. University of Cambridge Bill read a first time. House adjourned to 16th of April.

Monday, April 16th.—Charitable Trusts Bill read a second time.

17th.—Cambridge University Bill read a second time.

20th.—Sardinian Convention Bill read a second time.

23rd.—Sardinian Convention Bill passed through Committee.

24th.—Cambridge University Bill passed through Committee.

House of Commons.—Thursday, March 29th.—Church Rates Bill brought in and read a first time. Free Schools Bill read a first time. Parliamentary Representation (Scotland) Bill read a first time.

30th.—Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill read a first time. House adjourned to 16th of April.

Monday, April 16th.—Metropolis Local Management Bill read a second time. Supply, Civil Estimates, Public Libraries and Museums (Ireland) Bill read a second time.

17th.—Medical Departments. Colonel Boldero's motion negatived. Sunday Trading Bill read a first time. Sardinian Convention Bill read a third time and passed.

18th.—Intestacy (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Sea Coast Fisheries (Ireland), Mr. McMahon's Bill rejected. Inland Fisheries (Ireland) Bill withdrawn.

20th.—The Budget. Chancellor of the Exchequer's Financial Statement. Intestacy (Scotland) Bill committed.

23rd.—Committee of Ways and Means Report brought up, and Resolutions agreed to. Newspaper Stamp Bill considered in Committee. Roe buck's Committee, Captain Gladstone nominated a Member in room of Mr. Ball.

24th.—National Education, Mr. Heywood's Resolution debated and withdrawn. Charity Commission, Mr. Pellatt's motion withdrawn. Post Office Communication in the Islands of Scotland, Mr. H. Baillie's motion, House counted out.

25th.—Marriage Law Amendment Bill, debate on second reading begun and adjourned to 9th of May. Affirmations (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed.

THIS select committee appointed to inquire into the *State of the Army before Sebastopol* resumed its sittings on the 17th inst. All the members were present, except Mr. John Ball, the newly-appointed under-secretary for the colonies. Mr. Maxwell, one of the commissioners sent out by the Duke of Newcastle, was recalled. From his statements it would seem that the commissioners had left England without written instructions from the late minister of war, who assured Mr. Maxwell that his instructions should follow. When they arrived at the camp, some difficulties arose in consequence of the breach of military etiquette on their part, in neglecting to report their arrival and authority to Lord Raglan. The consequence was, that orders were issued from head-quarters, reprobating the commissioners for putting questions to the surgeons; but this difficulty was obviated when Lord Raglan learnt the authority of the commission. Mr. Maxwell was only partially examined, as the committee decided that they should be better able to continue his examination when they had the terms of his commission and report before them. Lieutenant-colonel Horsford, commanding the first battalion of the rifle brigade, gave evidence to the effect that his battalion had suffered severely from cholera and the climate, when he left the Crimea, at the end of January, having been reduced from 960 men to 180 men. He held that there had been no suffering in the field until the bad weather set in and the climate told against them: when the bad weather set in it was impossible to get up the stores, and the officers' horses were used as transport: the men suffered from hard work, exposure, and insufficient clothing. The fourth division, to which he was attached, being the last organised, had no bat-horses granted to it, and was without means of transport.

Sir Charles Trevelyan, assistant secretary to the Treasury since 1840, having until recently the superintendence of the commissariat department, was examined on the 17th and 18th. The following are the principal points of his evidence. It was on the 9th February, 1854, that directions were first given to provide for the expeditionary force about to be sent to Malta; and on the 17th, Mr. Filder—not as recommended by seniority, but as the best officer for the purpose, a man of tried and proved abilities—was appointed commissary-general. He reported that a staff of forty officers would be sufficient. Mr. Smith, commissariat-officer at Corfu, received orders to proceed to Constantinople, obtain information as to the resources of the country, take measures in concert with Mr. Calvert to receive the troops as they landed at Gallipoli, and make further provision for their reception at Scutari. These services he performed; and when Mr. Filder arrived at Constantinople, he found that the troops were well supplied. Shortly after his arrival, the forces were increased; Mr. Filder increased the number of his staff and subordinates; took instant measures to get together the means of land-transport: 2000 arabas, with their animals, and 5000 mules, were required for 25,000 men, a force that Mr. Filder deemed sufficient. Although not complete, there were means of transport at the end of July for rations for 25,000 men for thirteen days. Mr. Filder, in writing home, never said in so many words that he had enough means of transport to move the army from Varna; but he never said anything to the contrary, and he had made large

provision. Sir Charles was closely pressed on this point; and the provision made by Mr. Filder was compared with rules set down in books treating of the subject, from which it appeared that 24,000 animals would be required for 53,000 men. Mr. Filder's estimate of 3000 arabas and 5600 pack-animals for 25,000 men seemed to the committee inconsistent with the above estimate: but it was explained, that 3000 arabas are equal to 9000 pack-animals, which, plus 5600, give a force equal to 14,600 pack-animals. In Bulgaria, Mr. Filder never had fewer than 1000 arabas. When he landed in the Crimea, Mr. Filder had 1203 animals for the reserve ammunition, \$12 baggage-animals, 134 for carrying water, 98 for sundry services, and 70 carts. When he had been there a little more than a fortnight, he had imported 216 carts and mules, 193 wagons of the country, and 206 pack-animals; making a total means of conveyance for 317,900 pounds daily—more than the army then required. The animals left at Varna were "to spare," and were sent to Constantinople early in October. To illustrate the nature of the march from Old Fort to Balaklava, Sir Charles said, that "regularly as the ammunition-animals broke down, Lord Raglan ordered the contents of the commissariat-carts to be turned out and left to the mercy of the Cossacks, while the carts were loaded with ammunition." When Mr. Filder saw the result of the first day's fire, he began to be seriously alarmed. He pressed Lord Raglan for orders to lay in supplies and form depots; but could get no precise directions. On the 8th November, when informed that the army would winter in the Crimea, he had already written for additional supplies—1,250,000 pounds of biscuit per month, salt meat, 40,000 gallons of rum, and 40,000 pounds of forage per fortnight. These things the treasury requested the admiralty to forward. Whether they were forwarded or not, Sir Charles could not positively say; it had been assumed that they were; if the ships had not arrived the treasury would have heard. On the 13th November Mr. Filder wrote home expressing his apprehensions respecting the feeding of the army, as the roads were likely to break up; and he drew the attention of the quarter-master to the state of the road. He said he had plenty of food and plenty of transport, but feared for the road. After the battles of Balaklava and Inkerman, and the hurricane of the 11th November, the period of disaster began. By the breaking up of the road rendering carts useless, "the transport power was actually reduced to one-sixth" of what it had been. The animals died, and the drivers "disappeared." The hardships affected alike the small horses of the country and the finest mules from Spain. Mr. Filder wrote home for 350 drivers; and these, with 270 wagons and carts and harness, were raised and sent out in a short time. The animals that had died were after much delay on the part of the sea transport service, supplied by fresh horses drawn from Constantinople, and Turkish porters engaged at the same place. The delays at Constantinople were so great that Lord Raglan wrote a "courteous letter" to Admiral Boxer, reminding him how much depended on forwarding horses, forage, and stores. Throughout this period, one great link in the chain of difficulties was the break in the sea route between Constantinople and Balaklava. Admiral Boxer was a zealous officer, but he had not administrative powers sufficiently high for the situation. Down to as late as the 16th January there would seem to have been deficient transport; mainly in consequence of the practice of horse-stealing, so common in the camp; which, again, arose from the total unfitness of the idle Turks to act as muleteers. Mr. Filder fully described to Lord Raglan the state of the road and the necessity of mending it, or the service of supplying the army must come to a stand. He also pointed out the evils arising from the want of magazines at Balaklava, and the delays and confusion it caused in the issue of supplies.—Touching other points Sir Charles Trevelyan made some statements. Inquiries were made early in the year respecting supplies of vegetables; and successive cargoes of potatoes and large quantities of rice were forwarded. Mr. Filder was instructed to get forage on the Black Sea; but he failed as far as hay was concerned: chopped straw abounded, but some of

the cavalry and artillery officers objected to it; and large contracts for hay were made in England. One of their greatest difficulties arose from the want of depots and magazines. Hulks might have been used, but they were not thought of out there; or some of the houses at Balaklava might have been told off. Sir Charles held that the commissariat was not to blame for the unroasted coffee, as the officers themselves recommended that it should be issued unroasted. With regard to the porter, it was found too bulky to be supplied to the troops when they were not accessible by water-carriage; and before the army left Varna the supply had been discontinued by Lord Raglan, for sanitary reasons.—At the close of his evidence, Sir Charles Trevelyan stated that he had improved the old commissariat system, especially in the choice of tried clerks; but he thought the time had arrived when we should adopt the French system, and consolidate the different branches of our system on the model of the French "intendance."

Sir Charles Trevelyan's examination was continued on the 20th, when he went into further details respecting the causes which had produced disasters. They were, in his opinion, the following:—First, the omission to make a main road from the camp to the base of operations at Balaklava. This duty, according to the Queen's regulations, ought to have been performed by the quartermaster-general. Secondly, the absence of a road along the borders of the harbour of Balaklava. This duty also devolved on the quartermaster-general. Thirdly, the absence of commissariat-magazines on the shore at Balaklava; which it was also the business of the quartermaster-general to provide. Fourthly, the want of proper organisation of the transports and other vessels in that harbour, and the consequent loss of the Prince and other ships. For this the naval authorities were responsible. Fifthly, the want of proper arrangements for the transport service at Constantinople and in the Black Sea; for which Admiral Boxer was responsible. Sixthly, the passing suddenly, without proper preparation, from a summer to a winter campaign. For this likewise the quartermaster-general was responsible. That officer ought also to have provided warm clothing and huts for the troops. Seventy, the vast amount of articles which had to be carried up to the front in the disastrous and broken-down state of affairs.

The Duke of Newcastle's examination commenced on the 23rd. It was protracted to a great length, and embraced a vast variety of particulars. It first related to his powers and responsibilities as war minister. The general direction of the war was in the hands of the secretary-for-war. The duties of the commander-in-chief applied more especially to the discipline of the army. In that the secretary for war never interfered. The secretary-at-war had the administration of the finance department of the army. Occupying the official position of secretary-at-war and for the colonies, it was his duty to give directions for the movement of troops to the Mediterranean. As regarded the movement of cavalry and infantry, he communicated with the commander-in-chief. As regarded the movement of the artillery, the ambulance corps, and the sappers and miners, he communicated with the master-general of the ordnance. He also communicated with the treasury as to the commissariat. His communications with reference to the medical department, were generally conducted through the secretary-at-war. The names of the officers appointed to command were submitted to the Queen by the commander-in-chief generally after consultation with the administration, but there were exceptions, Lord Lucan, and Brigadiers Torrens and Golding were appointed without communication to the government, through inadvertence on the part of Lord Hardinge; and no official notice was taken of this circumstance. As regards the commissariat, his grace said that having explained to those who had the management of that department what the duties were to be performed, and the amount of troops to be supplied, he expected them to carry out the requisite arrangements for supplying the amount of provisions and transports. As regards the stores, he looked in the same way to the master-general of the ordnance, and to the board of ordnance for the supply of stores; but, at the same time, he

did not mean to say that he by any means divested himself of all care on these matters; for, with the exception of supplies to the commissariat—that being an independent department, he did not interfere with it to the same extent that he did with others—he took constant opportunities of inquiring into the amount of stores ordered by each different department, and occasions arose frequently in which he ordered the quantities supplied to be even doubled in their amount. The medical department also came under his notice, and his attention was drawn to the number of medical officers to be supplied to the army, within a few days after the expedition was first determined on, by an important letter from Dr. Guthrie published in the *Times*. The duke then went into long and minute details of his correspondence and communications with the heads of the various departments on the subject of supplies to the army, as soon as he was informed that such supplies were necessary.

On the 24th the Duke of Newcastle's examination was resumed. He said that he felt considerable difficulties in transacting business, from the forms of some of the subordinate departments, though he superseded these forms in numerous instances. To the best of his knowledge these forms still exist, at least he does not know of any alteration being made in them. The duke was then questioned at great length touching the various kinds and degrees of responsibility which attached to himself as secretary-of-war, the commander-in-chief, and Lord Raglan. The next topic was the hospital accommodation for the troops. In regard to the abominable condition of the hospital at Scutari, he considered that the "authorities on the spot," those who had charge of the hospital, were responsible. "I agree with Dr. Smith (said the duke) that the army medical board is in no degree satisfactorily constituted, and perhaps it requires as much change as any of the military departments. I do not think Dr. Smith was without any power that the war-office could give him. I considered myself responsible for everything. The public threw an unbounded responsibility on me, and every public servant is responsible for what he does, but I do not think that Dr. Smith could be held responsible for the many evils, if properly proved, that occurred at Scutari." He (the duke) could only say he hardly received from two persons the same opinions as to the origin of those evils. No doubt the appointment of the various officers was unfortunate, and he thought the blame of the state of things at Scutari attached in a greater or less degree to all connected with the hospital. The duke then went into many particulars respecting the commissariat, the transport service, and the medical department. He concluded by saying that he did not consider there was a want of power in the secretary-for-war so much as the want of means. In short, the tools with which he had to work were something like the intrenching tools, not of the very best quality. He had been hampered by his subordinates. "I am bound to say, however (he added), that everybody under me evinced the greatest cordiality towards me, and made the greatest efforts to do their duty. I do not attach blame to any individual, but I think the system is bad. I am satisfied that everybody under me did the very best in his power."

The Duke of Newcastle's examination terminated on Wednesday the 25th. A great part of it consisted of explanations and amplifications of his previous statements. The following were among the most remarkable passages. On the subject of providing for the army wintering in the Crimea, the duke said that it was impossible to have any fixed idea as to the arrangements necessary for the wintering of the army in the Crimea, so long as the result of the siege of Sebastopol was unknown; but admirable winter quarters, Sebastopol being taken, might have been had in the south of the Crimea, or the Bosphorus, and he provided for both contingencies.—The chairman: How did you provide for the contingency of wintering in Sebastopol, that contingency duke: If they had provided for itself.—The chairman: Did you provide for the contingency of not taking Sebastopol? I cannot say.—The chairman: Because that contingency has happened.—(A laugh.)—The duke:

But that is not the contingency I allude to. From the moment I apprehended a winter campaign in the Crimea was inevitable, from that moment I made provision for the supply of warm clothing and other things. He (the duke) was not aware that the efficiency of the service was impaired by any forms or vouchers required in communications with Lord Raglan. Great complaints were made as to those connected with the commissariat, and he appointed two officers to prepare new forms of a less complicated character than those that went out with the army. He thought the present system of audit, without reference to expenditure, was necessary, as calculated to check dishonesty. There were inconveniences attaching to them, but he was afraid that if they were removed great abuses would be introduced, and that the public would be at the mercy of dishonest servants. The maps of operation sent from the Crimea were not so good as those drawn by the French engineers; not for want of good men in the British engineering corps, which contained some of the first in the world; but the fact was, the maps were not well done; not because he supposed the government had expended a large sum in mapping during peace. The circumstance was to be debited to the Board of Ordnance, but it was only fair to say that the engineering officers were fully absorbed in the operations of the siege; and that it did not arise from any deficiency of talent in the corps. He (the duke) had recommended that the appointment of legal adviser to the ordnance should not be filled up; but subsequently he found it necessary to withdraw the recommendation. He was not aware whether Lord Raglan sent an officer to Lord Stratford to make arrangements with reference to supplies for the army; but Lord Raglan communicated with Lord Stratford on all requisite occasions. All requisite steps were taken by means of recruiting and reserve, to maintain the army in effective strength, under reduction by loss in battle and disease, — Being examined as to the manner in which the members of the cabinet had attended to their duties, the duke said: There was no meeting of the cabinet in August, after the prorogation of parliament, or in September, although that was an exceedingly important period of the campaign. There were one or two individual members of the cabinet absent from London during the whole of that period; but he thought it was unfair to ask him who they were. Besides, if he endeavoured from his imperfect recollection to state exactly which of the cabinet ministers were absent from London during that period, he might run the risk of doing injustice to individuals. He himself never left his post in London, except for a very short time, when he was called on to attend Prince Albert to the camp at Boulogne. It would have been no doubt more agreeable to himself if the whole of the cabinet ministers had been in London during that time, and it would also have relieved him of some personal responsibility which otherwise attached to him. He believed Sir James Graham remained at the Admiralty during the whole of the time in question, except when he was visiting the outports, or when he was in attendance on the Queen at Balmoral. He necessarily undertook, on his own personal responsibility, several measures in reference to the campaign, when his colleagues in the cabinet were out of town. Had the events of the campaign, however, taken such a turn as to make it necessary to change the whole character of the campaign, or to take any other important step, he should, of course, have summoned the whole of his colleagues to town by telegraph. In regard to appointments in the army in the Crimea, the duke said that he had never made any official remonstrances to Lord Hardinge on this subject, but he had expressed his opinion privately and verbally to his lordship on some of those appointments. Most certainly no suggestion was made by him to Lord Hardinge in reference to any appointment, which was not acted upon. He would never have ~~suggested~~ ^{intimated} such a thing. If his suggestions as secretary for war had ~~been~~ ^{been} immediately attended to, he should have resigned his office. His opinion was that the whole staff system of the army in the country was erroneous. His belief was that we ought to have a staff of the army something like that of the continental armies; without that the evils of the existing system

would never be removed. He stated to Lord Hardinge at the time that he had omitted to consult him before appointing Lord Lucan to the command of the cavalry brigade, but not in the way of remonstrance, that having been done inadvertently. The duke concluded by expressing his belief that considerable advantage would be obtained by an examination of the French military system, and from the assimilation of our own to it as much as possible. Some time ago, with that view, he appointed a commission, composed of three officers, to make inquiries into the subject upon the spot, and he believed those gentlemen had made their report to his successor in office, Lord Panmure.

On Thursday, April 26th, a considerable part of the sitting was occupied in hearing explanations from Mr. Potter, of the firm of Potter & Price, relative to the huts supplied to the army. Commissary-general Smith was then examined, regarding the transactions connected with his department.

The Return of the Quarter's Revenue was published on the 31st of March, five days earlier than heretofore. By the act of last session the quarters are now to end March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. As this is the first quarter in which the new arrangement has been carried out, it is five days short of the usual period, and, to prevent any erroneous inferences, a proportionate reduction has been made in the corresponding quarter of last year. Till this arrangement was made, the year in the revenue table was always five days behind that in the accounts of the expenditure. They are now brought together, and the treasury receives and pays money for the same years and quarters — that is, beginning and ending the very same days. The net increase on the quarter ending March 31 is no less than 4,384,308*l.*; that on the year ending the same day is 6,312,624*l.* The increase in the quarter's Customs is 221,069*l.*, arising upon sugar and tea. In the whole year the increase is 295,725*l.*, and arises upon sugar and tobacco; the receipts upon corn, tea, wine, and some other articles, having somewhat diminished. In the Excise of the quarter the increase is 211,284*l.*, caused chiefly by malt. In the whole twelvemonth the increase of the Excise is 1,077,578*l.*, that on malt being, as we are informed, 820,000*l.*; that on spirits, 420,000*l.*; and that on licenses, 70,000*l.*; so that, but for a decrease in hops and soap, the increase would have been two or three hundred thousand more. The Stamps of the quarter and of the year exhibit severally the increase of 54,944*l.* and 176,131*l.*, arising from the duties on legacies, successions, newspapers, and fire insurances. In the Land and Assessed Taxes of the quarter there is an increase to the amount of 95,595*l.*, while on the year there is more than that amount of decrease. It appears that the collection of these taxes has been rather slack latterly, and it was only during the last quarter that it became more prompt. The most important figure in the table is 3,798,612*l.*, which appears as the increase in the Property and Income Tax of the quarter, the increase in the year being 5,137,334*l.* This is chiefly owing to the double income tax, but it is said some part of the increase may be referred to the circumstance that there was unusual delay in the assessments of the last year, 1853-4, so that the present year has the benefit of considerable arrears. In the Post-office there appears to be regular increase, observing the same proportions in the quarter and in the year, being 46,000*l.* in the one, and 230,000*l.* in the other. The receipts from the Crown Lands are less by 123,316*l.* this year than last, owing to inevitable fluctuations in this department. The general improvement more than equals the expectations on which the late chancellor of the exchequer founded his budget.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

At Marylebone police-office, on the 27th ult., Mrs. Mary Ramsbotham, wife of Dr. Ramsbotham, the eminent physician, was charged with *Stealing* four ~~expensive~~ ^{expensive} handkerchiefs. It was stated that she went to the shop of Mr. Moule, a draper in Baker-street; while

the shopman who was attending on her went to another part of the premises, she was seen to take four handkerchiefs and put them into her pocket. When she left the shop she was followed; she entered a stationer's shop; as she left it, one of Mr. Moule's people spoke to her. She at first denied that she had been at Mr. Moule's; then admitted that she had, and volunteered the statement that she had got "the handkerchiefs" in her pocket. She was taken to Mr. Moule's, when she produced the handkerchiefs, saying, "I merely took them for the purpose of showing them to my sister, and if she had not approved of them I should have returned them." She hoped Mr. Moule would "look over this;" when he said he could not, she exclaimed, "Do as you like!" She was much excited and confused. Mr. Broughton said he must remand Mrs. Ramsbotham, as the shopman who had served her was not in attendance; he refused to take bail; and said, if he should eventually consent after the second examination, he would require two sureties in 1000*l.* each. On the 30th, on the production of a medical certificate to the effect that her reason would be endangered by confinement, she was liberated on bail. On the 2nd inst., she was brought up for re-examination. No new facts were elicited, and she was committed for trial; bail being taken, as before, for 2000*l.* The trial came on at the Middlesex sessions, on the 11th inst. The grand jury had found a bill for two larcenies; one, on the 15th March, of two sleeves; the other, on the 27th, of four handkerchiefs. Mr. Bodkin appeared for Mr. Moule, the prosecutor. It appeared that Mrs. Ramsbotham was observed to secrete the sleeves on the 15th March; Mr. Moule was not at home that day, and no proceedings were taken; when Mrs. Ramsbotham visited the shop a second time she was watched and detected. After Mrs. Ramsbotham was in custody, she admitted that she had taken the sleeves as well as the handkerchiefs. The evidence, in a great degree similar to that given at the police-court, proved that Mrs. Ramsbotham took the goods. Mr. Ballantine, for the defence, made no attempt to rebut the facts of the case; but he asked the jury to acquit on the ground that there was no felonious intent. He dwelt on the improbability of a lady like Mrs. Ramsbotham really intending to rob a shopkeeper,—periling reputation, happiness, health, and life, and exposing her children and husband to the most poignant sufferings, for the sake of a few shillings. He impugned the conduct of Mr. Moule: after the lady had taken the sleeves he did not communicate with her husband, but "laid a trap" for her. Did he not know that many ladies have a "mania" to commit these acts? Women have morbid delusions at certain times—as during pregnancy, and when a great constitutional change occurs: Mrs. Ramsbotham had arrived at the latter crisis. A number of clergymen, gentlemen, ladies, and tradesmen, were called, who testified to the honour and integrity of the prisoner during the long period they had known her. The assistant judge summed up favourably to the prisoner; repeatedly telling the jury, that if Mrs. Ramsbotham was suffering from a morbid affection, as urged by her counsel, and had no desire of gain or profit when she took the goods, they must acquit. After four hours' deliberation, the jury could not agree upon a verdict: they were equally divided, six for conviction and six for acquittal. After some consultation had taken place, and all imputation against Mr. Moule of setting "a trap" had been withdrawn, it was agreed that the jury should be discharged; and Mrs. Ramsbotham was liberated.

An important judgment was delivered on the 31st ult. by Mr. Pemberton Leigh, in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, on an appeal from the Admiralty Court, touching the *Laws of Blockade*. It appears that the Ostsee, a vessel from Mecklenburg, left Cronstadt on the 16th May, 1854, before the blockade of that port was established. On the 1st June, Captain Otter, cruising in the Alban about the Gulf of Finland, fell in with and detained her. The skipper of the Ostsee pleaded ignorance of the blockade, apparently with truth; and Captain Otter referred the case to Sir Charles Napier. The Admiral placed one of the mates of the Duke of Wellington on board as prize-master of the vessel, and sent her to London for condemnation.

On her arrival, the law-officers of the crown appear to have admitted that there was no blockade on the 16th May; and on their advice the claim to the ship was abandoned. The owners of the ship were not satisfied with this, but went into the Admiralty Court and proceeded against the captors of the Ostsee for damages and costs arising from detention. The judge of the Admiralty Court decided against them; they carried an appeal to the Lords of the Privy Council sitting as a Supreme Court of Prize; and this court reversed the decision of the lower court. Mr. Pemberton Leigh, in delivering judgment, laid it down that officers detaining neutral ships without sufficient grounds, and under a misapprehension of their duty, must be held liable to make good the loss and expense their act may have occasioned.

At the Kingston assizes, on the 3rd instant, the case of *Boyle versus Wiseman* was tried afresh. The reverend Mr. Boyle, a Roman Catholic priest, brought an action for libel against Cardinal Wiseman which was tried at the Guildford Assizes last summer; and the jury gave a verdict for the defendant. An application was made for a new trial, and granted, on the ground that the Chief Baron had refused to admit second-hand evidence of the contents of a letter in which Cardinal Wiseman admitted the authorship of the libel; and that Cardinal Wiseman could not be a witness, lest he should criminate himself. The origin of the case was this. Mr. Boyle was the curate of the Roman Catholic Church at Islington; when Dr. Wiseman succeeded Dr. Griffiths as Bishop of the Diocese, he dismissed Mr. Boyle, alleging want of zeal on his part, and the necessity for a change of system. Dr. Oakley, formerly of the Established Church, succeeded Mr. Boyle. In a reply to an article in the *Ami de la Religion*, the organ of the moderate party in Paris, the *Univers*, published a letter signed "N. Cardinal Wiseman," alleging that Mr. Boyle had been expelled from the order of the Jesuits; that he had shown so great a want of zeal in the discharge of his duties that his church was deserted; that he had kept possession of the residence of the chapel after he had been dismissed; and that he had, by threats, induced his parishioners to remonstrate with the bishop against his dismissal. No evidence was offered in support of these averments: but it was shown that Mr. Boyle had not been expelled from the Society of Jesus; that his church was not deserted; and that he did not intimidate his congregation into signing a remonstrance to Dr. Wiseman. The Reverend Mr. Ivers, a Roman Catholic priest at Kentish Town, holding his faculties direct from the Pope, deposed that he had read at Paris the letter in which Dr. Wiseman admitted the authorship of the libel. The letter was produced in court; but Mr. Ivers said that it had been altered since he saw it; and the letter as published in the *Univers* was admitted as evidence. Mr. Baron Platt said that the letter was a libel; and as no justification had been pleaded, the defendant thereby admitted that the charges were false. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 1000*l.* Cardinal Wiseman, who had been subpoenaed as a witness, but was not examined, sat on the bench throughout the trial. Cardinal Wiseman has since obtained a rule for a new trial.

At the Petty-Sessions at Kingsclere, Hants, Miss Emilie Frances Gordon, daughter of Sir Orford Gordon, was fined 5*l.* for Torturing a Pony very cruelly.

At the Norwich Assizes, the Rev. F. W. Waldron brought an action for *Libel* against the Reverend William Bates, Rector of Burnham. The plaintiff, formerly the curate of Mr. Bates, is the master of an endowed school at Wyndham in Leicestershire. The libel consisted of a letter written by Mr. Bates to the trustees of the school, proffering proofs of the abominable wickedness of Mr. Waldron, and calling upon them to dismiss him. The defence was a justification of the libel to the satisfaction of the jury. It was made out, that while Waldron was curate at Burnham, he had seduced his servant, Louisa Johnson, a girl of seventeen, and finally had recourse to violence to gratify his passions. In the same house lived Mrs. Childs, mistress of the adjoining National Schools; and it seems that the girl complained to her of the conduct of Waldron in its

earliest stages; but Mrs. Childs took no steps for the girl's protection. Recommended by Waldron, Louisa Johnson accepted a situation in the house of Mr. Bates, a barrister, and the brother of the Rector of Burnham. Here her misfortune made itself evident, and she was sent home. On his side, Mr. Waldron denied every statement made by Louisa Johnson, Mrs. Childs, and Mr. Bates. He called a witness, Mary Ann Grix, with the view of showing that Johnson had been intimate with one Norris, a lad. But, "Polly Grix" also gave evidence that Mr. Waldron was on "good terms" with her too, and was accustomed to kiss her "by way of a joke," and take her on his knee. The Chief Baron had Mr. Waldron called into court; he heard the statements, and denied that he had ever kissed Mary Ann Grix. The jury found a verdict for the defendant.

At the Middlesex Sessions on the 9th instant, two youths were convicted of *Stealing Books* from the counters of Mr. Murray and Mr. Bosworth. They are said to be "regular book-thieves;" they were in the habit of going to booksellers with bags in their hands, and while the shopman was searching or inquiring for some rare or unknown work or catalogue which they pretended to need, the thieves whipped books off the counter into their bags. They were sent to prison for a year.

Joseph Smith, a militiaman, was convicted of *Stabbing* a pot-companion with his bayonet, while both were drunk. Mr. Witham commented severely on the practice of permitting militia men to wear their bayonets, and in some cases to have their muskets, when off duty; while privates in the regular army are forbidden to go about armed. Smith was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Luigi Baranelli was tried on the 12th instant for the *Murder* of Joseph Latham in Foley Place. The evidence was similar to that given before the coroner and at the police court. The defence set up was a plea of insanity. Witnesses were called to prove that the prisoner had exhibited "exaggerated grief" at the death of his two successive wives; that he had magnified diseases under which he suffered; and that he had talked of killing himself. Dr. Baller, of Peinshurst, Mr. Henry, surgeon at Middlesex Hospital, and Dr. Conolly, all expressed a belief that he was of unsound mind. But other medical men were called for the prosecution to oppose this evidence: Mr. M'Murdo, surgeon of Newgate, Dr. Mayo, and Dr. Sutherland, all believed Baranelli to be accountable for his acts; his illusions were merely the result of hypochondriasis. The jury consulted for fifteen minutes, and then returned a verdict of "Guilty." Mr. Justice Erle pronounced sentence of death on the convict. Baranelli was assisted from the dock in an almost fainting state.

At the Central Criminal Court, Charles King, formerly a plain-clothes policeman, was convicted of *Complicity in Picking Pockets*. The particulars of this extraordinary case have already appeared: King, as a boy-thief related, was extensively engaged in training up young thieves, going out with them on their "business" rounds, and sharing the plunder they obtained. He was sentenced to be transported for fourteen years.

At Liverpool assizes, on the 14th, Mr. Peter Petrie sued Mr. Ellis, a London underwriter, for his proportion of 3200*l.* *Insured by a Policy of Insurance on a Box of Gold-Dust.* The case was singular. Mr. Petrie bought a small vessel in 1852 to make a speculative voyage to Australia; he made a good deal of money by selling goods and conveying passengers between Adelaide and Melbourne, and he also got something by a gold-digging trip; when about to return to England, he wrote over for insurances to be effected here on the ship, cargo, and treasure. In the British Channel the weather was bad at night, and there was much shipping about; to warn other vessels of his proximity, he burnt a blue light; by some means a blue light in a box of lights in Mr. Petrie's cabin took fire; a barrel of gunpowder was stowed there; he thought this would explode; he managed to hurl the burning light from the cabin, but other things had then caught fire; amid the flames, he seized a box of gold-dust, hurried on deck, and ordered all hands to the boats. In attempting to enter one of

these, he stumbled, and the box of gold fell into the sea. It seems that the fire in the cabin was then put out, the box of blue lights thrown overboard, and the ship was brought safely to port. Mr. Petrie lost his eyesight by entering the cabin to save the gold. As the box had been thus lost on the voyage, he sought to recover its value from the insurers. Witnesses were called to support the story told by the plaintiff. For the defence, a scientific gentleman threw doubt on the probability of a blue light igniting spontaneously; and Sergeant Wilkins urged that Mr. Petrie had not satisfactorily made out that he possessed so much gold-dust. The jury returned a verdict for the amount claimed.

A court-martial has been held at Portsmouth to inquire into the *Loss of the Tiger*. The defendants were Lieutenant Royer and Mr. Edington the master. After a long investigation, the following sentence was pronounced: "The court is of opinion that the ship Tiger was run on shore in consequence of her having been rashly conducted as she approached the coast of Odessa; and that after the ship had been run on shore the measures resorted to get her afloat were injudicious: but in respect to the surrender of the Tiger to the enemy, that, as the ship was aground without any hope being entertained of floating her off, and as she was exposed to the enemy's guns, which had set her on fire, and upon which the guns of the ship could not be brought to bear, no blame can be imputed in consequence of such surrender. The court is further of opinion, that no blame is imputable to the said Lieutenant Alfred Royer, since he acted under the immediate directions of his captain; and the court doth adjudge him to be acquitted. The court is further of opinion, that Mr. Francis Edington is blameable for the want of caution that was exhibited by him in approaching the shore near Odessa: but, in consideration of his previous good character and long services, doth adjudge him to be only severely reprimanded. And the said Lieutenant Alfred Royer is hereby acquitted; and the said Mr. Francis Edington is hereby severely reprimanded accordingly."

Another case of *Military Outrages*, under the name of practical jokes, very similar to that of Lieutenant Perry, has taken place at Canterbury. For some weeks past (says the *South Eastern Gazette*) Cornet Edward Picton Baumgarten, of the 6th Enniskillen Dragoons, has been subjected to a series of practical jokes at the hands of his brother officers, some of them of a grossly immoral character. It is stated that this young officer who has only been in the regiment some three months, (and is spoken of as a quiet, inoffensive, gentlemanly person) has been thus treated during the last fortnight, or three weeks at the utmost. His sword was broken, and the plume of his helmet cut to pieces; two buckets of water thrown into his bed, and his clothes put into the bath; water poured into the chest containing his clean linen; six panes of glass in the window smashed, as well as the looking-glass; the door locked while he was in the room, and the window fastened down; and, to complete the affair, the tail of his horse and its topket were cut off, and the animal, which cost eighty guineas, so disfigured as to render its confinement to the stable necessary. As might have been expected, this treatment led to a challenge on the part of Cornet Baumgarten, the supposed leader in the affair, Cornet Evans, being the person to whom it was addressed. It was accepted, the seconds appointed, and all the preliminaries arranged, Saturday last being fixed for its execution. Accordingly, by six o'clock in the morning, a party of officers took possession of an old gravel pit in the old park, at the rear of the barracks; a surgeon waiting in readiness, in an adjoining field. They were doomed, however, to disappointment, for, as Cornet Baumgarten was proceeding to the spot, he was quickly followed by the saddler-sergeant, dressed in private clothes, who called upon Mr. Collard's bailiff and two other men who were working in the field, to detain the officer, or they would subject themselves to punishment, as he was going to fight a duel. The men did as directed, and the cornet was marched off to the bailiff's house, instead of joining his companions in the gravel-pit. The adjutant of the regiment came up shortly after, and ordered a file of

men to arrest the sergeant, telling them, if he resisted, "to knock him down with the butt-end of their carbines." He, however, went quietly off to the barracks, and now awaits a court-martial, which has been ordered, to take his trial for "breach of discipline, and using violent language"—but virtually for preventing a breach of the peace. On Saturday evening the mayor and sitting magistrates assembled in the council chamber to inquire into the matter, when evidence was adduced confirmatory of the above facts, so far as they referred to the incidents of the morning. Cornet Baumgarten was present, and at its conclusion entered into his own bond, in the sum of 1000*l.*, to appear before the bench on Monday to answer the charge of illegally meeting to fight a duel with one Evans. Cornet Evans not being in attendance, a warrant was issued for his apprehension, and on Sunday last Superintendent Clements proceeded to the barracks to serve the warrant, returning to the station-house with the officer in his charge. The officer was taken to the superintendent's private room, and the mayor and magistrates' clerk sent for; on their arrival Cornet Evans was set at liberty after entering into his own recognisances to appear to answer the charge on Monday.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A SHOCKING *Catastrophe* happened on Loch Gowna on the 3rd instant. Mr. Dopping, of the Royal Marines, stationed at Arva, invited the officers of the Longford Rifles to a day's pleasure on board his yacht, at Lough Gowna, near Granard. Those who accepted the invitation were—Capt. F. White (son of Mr. H. White, the colonel of the regiment and lieutenant of the county); Capt. R. A. Dopping (son of Mr. Dopping); Lieut. Fox (son of the county member, Mr. R. M. Fox); Lieut. Shuldham, Lieut. Bolton, and Ensign Gregory, of the Rifles; and Lieut. Irwin, of the revenue police, stationed at Arva. Everything went on well till evening, when the yacht neared the land at Derrycasen, and it became necessary to get into a small rowboat to reach the shore. In their eagerness to return, too many got into the boat, when she unfortunately upset, and Mr. Dopping, Capt. White, Lieut. Fox, and Lieut. Irwin, were drowned. Lieut. Shuldham and Ensign Gregory were also immersed for some time, but were fortunately saved through the exertions of Lieut. Bolton and Michael Roddy, a servant of one of the officers.

The Isabella Anderson, of Inverness, has been wrecked and all on board have perished. A bottle, containing a letter written in pencil, found by a young fisherman on the beach of Golspie, has disclosed the melancholy catastrophe. The sheet was rolled cross-wise, as if done hurriedly, and put into the bottle in such a manner that it could not be taken out without breaking the bottle. The letter will be read with a mournful interest:—"December 19—ship Isabella Anderson, of Inverness. Our canvas has given way! The racing waves dash with fury round our helpless barque! The rocky coast of Norway will soon tell our fate. This is my last work, and I accomplish it with the bravery of a British sailor. My love to my affectionate wife. The same to my beloved family. Evermore farewell! John Sanderson."

The *Annual Register of Shipwrecks* states that the lives lost during the year 1854 on and off the shores of the United Kingdom were no fewer than 1,519; there having been 689 in 1853, and 920 in 1852. The following are the larger or more notable of these calamities: "Thirteen were lost in the Embla, wrecked near Blyth in a snow storm, on the 7th of January; 290 in the Tayleur, wrecked at Lambay Island, January 21st; 23 in the W. H. Davies, wrecked at Vatersa Island, in the Hebrides, on the 27th of January; 16 in the Charles Jones, wrecked on a rock off Esha Ness, Shetland, January 31s; 10 by starvation on board the wreck of the Bonn Dea, which was boarded off Mizen Head, and the survivors rescued, February 11th; 11 by the upsetting of the life-boat of the Liverpool Steam-tug Company, when trying to save

the crew of the Cherokee, stranded in a gale in the West Hoyle, February 18th; 14 in the Essex, lost on the Scroby Sand, on the same day; 480 in the City of Glasgow, steam-ship, missing since the 1st of March, on which day she sailed from Liverpool for Philadelphia; 11 in the Bonato, which foundered off the start, in collision with the Ann Kimball, in the night of March 24th; 199 in the Favourite (of Bremen), which sank near the same spot, in collision with the Hasper, in the night of March 29th; 21 in the Europa, transport which was burned at sea, May 31st; 11 in the fishing lugger, Happy Return, lost near the Dudgeon, October 18th; 12 in the Oxefia, wrecked on Hashro' Sand, November 17th; 23 in the Mary Graham, wrecked at Sunderland, in the night of November 22nd; 40 in the Nile, steam-ship, wrecked near Portreath in the night of November 30th; 16 in the Rovigno, which sank near Hashro' Sand in the night of December 4th; and 14 in the London, wrecked on Burnham Flats, at night, December 6th. The remainder were lost in smaller numbers exclusive of many more lost in ships that are missing."

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE *Early Closing Association* has circulated a sketch of the progress and present state of the movement, which deserves the most extensive publicity that can be given to it. The following particulars are of great and general interest. Since this association was formed in 1812, it is estimated that at least 150,000 young men and young women are more or less directly interested—physically, morally, socially, and religiously—in its efforts. This is quite irrespective of the large measure of influence it is known to have exercised, and is still exercising throughout the provinces, in originating and in various ways assisting branch associations. Previous to its establishment, the hours of employment in nearly every department of industrial life were excessive: in many cases almost incredibly so; for instance, it was a very common practice for the linen drapers to keep their shops open during a large portion of the year till 11 and 12 o'clock at night, it being often 1, and sometimes even 2 o'clock, before the assistants were really free. On Sunday mornings they not unfrequently were kept at work till 3, 4, and even 5 o'clock, and numerous have been the instances of young men, instead of retiring bed, preferring going off to bathe, it being broad daylight when they left their respective shops. Seven o'clock in winter and 8 o'clock in summer, are the hours which it is desired should be adopted in the retail trade. Through the agency of the Early Closing Association, the hours of employment in many departments of business have already been materially curtailed. Since a partial reduction in the period of employment has thus taken place, very many valuable institutions, for the special mental and religious benefit of young men, have been formed, which before were not so much as heard of, and, indeed, but for the success of the Early Closing Association, could not possibly have existed. Reference is here made more particularly to the Young Men's Christian Association, the Church of England Young Men's Society, and the Evening Classes for Young Men. But there are, notwithstanding, at the present time many thousands of young men, and also of young women, who are utterly cut off from the many privileges offered by these excellent institutions. The Early Closing Association is the only organised agency in existence for extending to the over-worked population of the metropolis opportunity for healthful relaxation, and the culture of their mental and spiritual nature. Its efforts are designed to apply to every department of industrial occupation, where the period of employment is unduly and unnecessarily protracted. Those efforts have recently been employed—and with considerable success—in promoting the Saturday half-holiday movement in connexion with the various wholesale trades. The attention of the board is at present particularly directed to the ease of the assistant chemists, whose hours of employment extend, for the most part, from about 7 o'clock in the morning, till half-past 10 and

11 o'clock at night, with a liability, moreover, to their being called up at any hour in the night, and without being able to call so much as the Sabbath their own; and it is proposed ere long to draw attention to the condition of that sadly oppressed class—the journeymen bakers. The association has sought to accomplish its object principally through the instrumentality of public meetings, lectures, sermons, and the press; ever striving by confining its claims within the bounds of moderation, and by the exercise of a right and kindly spirit, so to melt down the prejudices of opposing employers, as in time to conciliate and win them over to the cause. At present it stands greatly in need of an increase to its funds; and it is hoped the above particulars will be deemed a sufficient proof of the importance of the operations of the Early Closing Association, and justify the expectation of the board that, if those operations are adequately sustained by means of public liberality, a very large amount of good must ensue to all persons engaged in trade, and, indirectly, to the community at large.

The tenth anniversary of the *Royal Theatrical Fund* was celebrated, on 2d inst., by the usual dinner at the London Tavern. The principal speaker was Mr. Buckstone, who gave a description of the trials and troubles of a country actor's life, as illustrated by his own experience.—“I am enabled truly to depict what this class of performers endure, because I was a country actor, and, amongst other vicissitudes, once walked from Northampton to London—seventy-two miles—on four-pence-halfpenny. It is a fact, I assure you. I had a companion in the same plight; and on comparing our pecuniary resources, we discovered ourselves masters of the sum of ninepence, fourpence-halfpenny each, according to Cocker. As it may interest you, gentlemen, I will describe my costume on that occasion, and how we got to London. My costume consisted of a threadbare whitish-blue coat, with tarnished metal buttons, secured to the throat, because I wore underneath what we term a flowered waistcoat, made of glazed chintz, and of a very showy pattern, generally adopted when playing country boys and singing comic songs, which at that time was my vocation. I will not attempt to describe my hat; while my trousers must only be delicately alluded to, as they were made of what was originally white duck, but, as they had been worn about six weeks, and having myself been much in the fields, there was a refreshing tint of a green and clay colour about them, which imparted to that portion of my attire quite an agricultural appearance. I carried a small bundle, I will not describe its entire contents, except that it held a red wig and a pair of russet boots. Under my arm was a portfolio, containing sketches from nature, and some attempts at love poetry. While on my feet to perform this distance of seventy-two miles, I wore a pair of dancing pumps, tied up at the heel with pack-thread. Thus equipped, I started with my companion from Northampton; and before breakfast we accomplished fifteen miles, when we sat down to rest ourselves under a hedge by the road-side. We felt very much disposed to partake of the meal I have alluded to, but were rather puzzled how to provide it. Presently a cow-boy appeared, driving some lazy zigzag-going cows, and carrying two large tin cans, containing skimmed milk. We purchased the contents of one of the cans for one halfpenny. A cottage was close at hand, where we applied for bread, and procured a very nice though rather stale half-quarter loaf for one penny. The cow-boy sat by us on that road-side to wait for his can. The cows seemed to regard us with a sleepy look of mingled pity and indifference, while, with the bottom crust of that loaf and three pints of skimmed milk, I assure you I enjoyed the road-side breakfast of that summer morning more than I have enjoyed the sumptuous banquet of this evening. On the first day we walked forty miles; in which my pumps, and what they covered ‘suffered some.’ Our bed for the night was in one of those wayside hostels called ‘a lodging-house for travellers,’ for which accommodation we disbursed twopence. Late in the evening of the next day we completed the remaining thirty-two miles; and found ourselves at the Mother Red Cap, at Camden Town, with enough in our pockets

to procure half a pint of porter.” Mr. Buckstone considered himself qualified to say how great a boon the Theatrical Fund is to the poor country actors. He stated that, though the disbursements of the society include sums returned to the families of deceased members, the payment of funeral expenses, the payment of ten annuities, five of 30*l.* per annum, four of 60*l.*, and one of 90*l.*, their capital amounted to nearly 9000*l.*

The fortieth anniversary of the *Artists' Benevolent Institution* was celebrated by dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 31st ult.; the Lord Mayor in the chair. The subscriptions reached 611*l.*

The annual dinner of the *Royal Humane Society* was held on the 30th ult.; Sir Samuel Peto in the chair, as the Duke of Wellington was prevented by indisposition. The report of the Society showed that last year 150 out of 177 persons were successfully treated; that 97 persons immersed by the breaking of the ice were rescued; and that 690 persons severely cut or bruised on the ice received medical assistance in the Society's receiving-houses, up to the 27th February. Among those rewarded with the Society's medal for meritorious actions, were Lieutenant Lucas, of the Hecla, who threw a lighted shell overboard during the first attack on Bomarsund; and Lieutenant Walter Stirling, of the Coldstream Guards, late midshipman of the Britannia, who during the hurricane of the 14th November commanded a boat that, under fire of the Cossacks, rescued thirty-five men from the transports wrecked off the Katcha. In the course of one of his speeches, Sir Samuel Peto informed the company that the Balaklava railroad would be completed as far as the English head-quarters by the 26th, and that then 1000 tons of ammunition could be carried to the front every day. The subscriptions exceeded 600*l.*

The *Manner of celebrating Divine Worship in St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge*, continues to be the subject of unseemly disputes. On Easter Eve the church was decked with evergreens and flowers, with the consent of the clerical authorities. Hearing this, Mr. Westerton, the churchwarden, took legal advice, and served notices upon the Rev. Mr. Liddell, the Rev. Mr. Marriott, the Rev. Mr. Boucher, and several females, warning them against aiding in these proceedings. This produced no effect; and in the evening Mr. Westerton, going to the church himself, found that he was locked out by the curates and their female assistants. But he gained admission, and removed the decorations from the chancel. As soon as Mr. Westerton had withdrawn, the curate and his friends replaced the flowers. On the following Tuesday the vestry of the parish met to elect churchwardens; Mr. Liddell, the incumbent, in the chair. A most outrageous scene took place. First there was a warm dispute as to the minutes of the last meeting; Mr. Liddell refusing to confirm Mr. Westerton's minutes, and confirming his own. Mr. Beale moved a resolution, to the effect that Mr. Westerton's minutes, not Mr. Liddell's minutes, were then read and confirmed. Mr. Liddell objected to put the motion, till informed by the Rev. F. Baring that he was legally bound to do so. Then the resolution was carried. Next, Col. Vereker moved a resolution, declaring the opinion of the meeting, “That the mode of celebrating divine worship by the said Rev. R. Liddell and his curates in the church of St. Paul's, and the chapel of St. Barnabas, is highly offensive, and ought forthwith to be discontinued; that the Hon. and Rev. F. Baring, Ilion, C. Smyth Vereker, Grenville Berkeley, Esq., M.P., Lord Ernest Bruce, and Mr. C. Westerton, be a committee to arrange a deputation to once more wait upon the Bishop of London, and to express to him the feelings and wishes of the parishioners.” Mr. Liddell, disregarding this resolution, declared that he would name his own warden. This, according to Mr. Baring, who again tendered advice, was really the proper course. But as Mr. Liddell left the chair last year after the wardens had been named, the meeting were apprehensive that he would do so this year and that the legality of the subsequent acts of the vestry would be endangered. Mr. Beale therefore asked Mr. Liddell whether he would not leave the chair until the business was over; but Mr. Liddell pertinaciously refused to answer. Mr. Baring again told the meeting, that if Mr. Liddell left the chair they

could legally appoint their own chairman, and pass what resolutions they pleased. At length Mr. Liddell nominated Mr. W. H. Jackson, of Wilton Crescent. It was urged that he had not resided six months in the parish, and could not serve; but Mr. Liddell entered his appointment on the minutes, amidst great confusion and noise. After more uproar, Mr. Baring moved, and Admiral Hatton seconded, the nomination of Mr. Westerton. Here, while Mr. Liddell still sat in the chair, Mr. Westerton stated, in reply to a series of questions, that the Bishop of London had directed that the prayers should be read, whereas they are "monotoned;" that Mr. Liddell promised to discontinue the bowing to the cross, and did discontinue it for a time, but took it up again; that the Bishop stated that it is not in the power of the incumbent to decorate the chancel without the consent of the churchwarden; and that although the offertory, yielding 1000/- per annum, should be paid to the account of St. Paul's Church, as directed by the Bishop, no account has been rendered by Mr. Liddell, and not one shilling has been given to the poor. At length Mr. Westerton was elected, with only one person dissenting; and the incumbent left the chair. A scene of great confusion ensued. Groans, hisses, cheers, and yells, resounded through the room; the reverend gentleman had to force his way through the crowd to the door, being very much hustled and pushed in the process. The cries of "Turn him out!" were loud and frequent; and one voice was heard to suggest that "he should be thrown out of the window." Mr. Westerton took the chair, and Colonel Vereker's resolution was unanimously carried.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

The Visit of the Emperor and Empress of the French to this country during the present month has been a memorable event. They arrived at Dover on Monday the 16th inst., and were received by Prince Albert, who had come there the preceding evening to meet them. They were conducted by his Royal Highness to the Warden Hotel, where they partook of luncheon, and afterwards received the Corporation of Dover. They left Dover for London about three o'clock. The journey by the South-Eastern Railway was performed at the rate of about fifty miles an hour. The party arrived at the Bricklayers' Arms station about five o'clock; and here, saluted by the hurrahs of a large crowd, they entered the Queen's carriages, and, escorted by a squadron of Life Guards, proceeded to the Paddington station of the Great Western Railway; passing along the Kent Road, the Westminster Road, over Westminster Bridge, along Parliament Street, up Whitehall, by Charing Cross, into Pall Mall, St. James Street, Piccadilly, Hyde Park, on the north bank of the Serpentine, and thus driving through the Victoria Gate and Eastbourne Terrace to the Great Western terminus. The carriages passed along the whole line through a lane of human beings drawn up many deep, beside those crowding every window. Many flags of the allied nations waved from the houses. In the Park, lines of carriages and horsemen, two deep, stretching from Apsley House to the Victoria Gate, presented a still more brilliant picture. The cortège passed slowly by, so that nearly all present were able to see the principal actors in the pageant. Corresponding with the arrival at Westminster Bridge the Park guns fired a salute; the band of the Royal Marines, mounted over the archway of the Admiralty, played "Partant pour la Syrie" as the procession went by; and at St. James's Palace a guard of honour turned out. It was six o'clock before the train started for Windsor, and nearly seven before it arrived. The preparations for welcome at Windsor were more extensive than elsewhere, and the Emperor drove to the Castle under two triumphal arches. At the grand entrance to the Castle, the Queen received her guests in state; surrounded by her Ministers, Great Officers, and Yeomen of the Guard. Taking the arm of the Emperor, Prince Albert following with the Empress, she led the way to the Throne-room, and thence to the reception-room; where the ladies and gentlemen of the household were presented to the

Emperor and Empress. The banquet which followed was in St. George's Hall.

Tuesday and Wednesday were spent at Windsor. On the former day there was a stag-hunt and a review. On the latter, the Queen invested the Emperor with the insignia of the Garter at a chapter of the order held for that purpose. On Thursday, the Emperor and Empress visited the City. They set out from Buckingham Palace at one o'clock, in a close carriage preceded by six carriages containing their attendants; and proceeded to Guildhall, amidst the shouts and acclamations of the multitudes who crowded the streets, windows, and housetops. Guildhall, when they entered was filled by an assemblage including many of the nobility, the ministers, the foreign ambassadors, and city authorities. When the Emperor and Empress were seated under a splendid canopy at the east end of the hall, the Mayor and Corporation advanced in procession and presented an address which was read by the Recorder. The Emperor speaking in English, delivered the following reply:—"My Lord Mayor—After the cordial reception I have experienced from the Queen, nothing could affect me more deeply than the sentiments towards the Empress and myself to which you, my Lord Mayor, have given expression on the part of the City of London, for the City of London represents the available resources which a world-wide commerce affords both for civilisation and for war. Flattering as are your praises, I accept them, because they are addressed much more to France than to myself; they are addressed to a nation whose interests are today everywhere identical with your own; they are addressed to an army and navy united to yours by an heroic companionship in danger and in glory; they are addressed to the policy of the two governments, which is based on truth, on moderation, and on justice. For myself, I have retained on the throne the same sentiments of sympathy and esteem for the English people that I professed as an exile, while I enjoyed here the hospitality of your Queen; and if I have acted in accordance with my convictions, it is that the interest of the nation which has chosen me, no less than that of universal civilisation, has made it a duty. Indeed, England and France are naturally united on all the great questions of politics and of human progress that agitate the world. From the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Mediterranean—from the Baltic to the Black Sea—from the desire to abolish slavery to our hopes for the amelioration of all the countries of Europe—I see in the moral as in the political world for our two nations but one course and one end. It is, then, only by unworthy considerations and pitiful rivalries that our union could be dissevered. If we follow the dictates of common sense alone, we shall be sure of the future. You are right in interpreting my presence among you as a fresh and convincing proof of my energetic co-operation in the prosecution of the war, if we fail in obtaining an honourable peace. Should we so fail, although our difficulties may be great, we may surely count on a successful result; for not only are our soldiers and sailors of tried valour—not only do our two countries possess within themselves unrivalled resources—but above all—and here lies their superiority—it is because they are in the van of all generous and enlightened ideas. The eyes of all who suffer instinctively turn to the West. Thus our two nations are even more powerful from the opinions they represent than by the armies and fleets they have at their command. I am deeply grateful to your Queen for affording me this solemn opportunity of expressing to you my own sentiments and those of France, of which I am the interpreter. I thank you in my own name and in that of the Empress for the frank and hearty cordiality with which you have received us. We shall take back with us to France the lasting impression made on minds thoroughly able to appreciate it, of the imposing spectacle which England presents, where virtue on the throne directs the destinies of a country under the empire of a liberty without danger to its grandeur." The cheering, which burst out at several marked passages of the reply, was renewed at the close. Then followed the ceremonial presentations of various City notables; after which the Emperor and Empress des-

cended from the dais, conversed with the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and with the Duke of Cambridge. Proceeding next to the Council-Chamber, the whole party partook of a déjeuner of the proportions of a dinner; the Emperor and Empress sitting at the head of the table, having the Duke of Cambridge on their right and the diplomatic body on the left, the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress sitting at the opposite end of the table. The guests of the City left the Guildhall at four o'clock, and returned by a different route to Buckingham Palace. In the evening, the Queen, Prince Albert, the Emperor and Empress, accompanied by a numerous and distinguished suite, went in state to the Opera at Covent Garden Theatre. The house, brilliantly and lavishly decorated for the occasion, was filled by a company many of whom had paid enormous prices for their sittings. The state box, erected in the centre of the circle fronting the stage, had been enlarged by the absorption of several other boxes up to the second tier; and the retiring-rooms behind, formed by a special appropriation of saloons and lobbies, were adorned with great magnificence. At an hour unusually late for a state visit, between the first and second acts of *Fidelio*, the party from Buckingham Palace arrived; the Emperor leading or rather led by, the Queen, the Empress led by Prince Albert. At their entrance, first "Partant pour la Syrie," then "God save the Queen," greeted them. At the end of the third act the performance of these national airs was repeated, reversing the order; and the rising of the curtain revealed, besides the performers, hundreds of ladies and gentlemen, in evening dress, who had paid highly for a sight of the house and its occupants from the stage. During the evening, many of the principal streets were brilliantly illuminated.

On Friday the Emperor and Empress, with the Queen and Prince Albert, visited the Crystal Palace. They arrived about noon. After examining the various objects of interest in the building, and showing themselves to the multitude assembled on the terrace, they partook of luncheon; and about three o'clock returned to Buckingham Palace, where there was a grand concert in the evening. On Saturday morning the illustrious visitors left Buckingham Palace on their return to Paris. They were accompanied to the railway station by Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge; and the Lord Mayor came to pay his respects at parting. Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge accompanied them to Dover, and on board the steamer, where they parted with the utmost cordiality. The Emperor and Empress arrived at Boulogne about four o'clock.

The Queen has conferred the honour of a Baronetcy on the Lord Mayor of London.

A warm tribute to the merits of Miss Nightingale is given by the Hon. and Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne, in his newly-published work, "Seutari and its Hospitals."

"Miss Nightingale in appearance is just what you would expect in any other well-bred woman who may have seen perhaps rather more than 30 years of life; her manner and countenance are prepossessing, and this without the possession of positive beauty; it is a face not easily forgotten, pleasing in its smile, with an eye betokening great self-possession, and giving when she wishes a quiet look of firm determination to every feature. Her general demeanour is quiet, and rather reserved; still I am much mistaken if she is not gifted with a very lively sense of the ridiculous. In conversation she speaks on matters of business with a grave earnestness one would not expect from her appearance. She has evidently a mind disciplined to restrain under the principles of the action of the moment every feeling which would interfere with it. She has trained herself to command, and learnt the value of conciliation towards others and constraint over herself. I can conceive her to be a strict disciplinarian; she throws herself into a work as its head—as such she knows well how much success must depend upon literal obedience to her every order. She seems to understand business thoroughly, though to me she had the failure common to many 'Heads'—a too great love of management in the small details which had better, perhaps, have been left to others.—Her nerve is wonderful; I have been with her at very severe operations, she was more than equal to

the trial. She has an utter disregard of contagion, I have known her spend hours over men dying of cholera or fever. The more awful to every sense any particular case, especially if it was that of a dying man, her slight form would be seen bending over him, administering to his ease in every way in her power, and seldom quitting his side till death released him. I have heard and read with indignation the remarks hazarded upon her religious character. I found her myself to be in her every word and action a Christian; I thought this quite enough. It would have been, in my opinion, the most cruel impertinence to scrutinise her words and acts, to discover to which of the many bodies of true Christians she belonged. I have conversed with her several times on the deaths of those whom I had visited ministerially in the hospitals, with whom she had been when they died. I never heard one word from her lips that would not have been just what I should have expected from the lips of those whom I have known to be the most experienced and devout of our common faith. I do not think it is possible to measure the real difficulties of the work Miss Nightingale has done, and is doing by the mere magnitude of the field and its peculiarly horrible nature. Every day brought some new complication of misery, to be somehow unravelled by the power ruling in the Sisters' tower. Each day had its peculiar trial to one who had taken such a load of responsibility, in an untried field, and with a staff of her own sex, all new to it. Hers was a post requiring the courage of a Cardigan, the tact and diplomacy of a Palmerston, the endurance of a Howard, the cheerful philanthropy of a Mrs. Fry or a Miss Neave; Miss Nightingale yet fills that post, and, in my opinion, is the one individual who in this whole unhappy war has shown more than any other what real energy, guided by good sense, can do to meet the calls of sudden emergency."

Sir De Lacy Evans, learning that his constituents were about to present him with some costly testimonial, has written to beg that they will oblige him by giving up their intention. They have given him so many proofs of confidence, he said, that it would be superfluous to give one more. The intention has therefore been abandoned.

Sir Robert Peel delivered a lecture on the British poets, at the Marylebone Institution, on the 11th inst., to an audience described as crowded and fashionable.

The inhabitants of Marylebone held a public meeting on the 17th instant to record their deep regret at the loss of *Lord Dudley Stuart*, to express their sense of his great services, and to appoint a committee for raising funds to commemorate those services by a becoming testimonial. Sir Benjamin Hall presided, and Lord Ebrington and M. Kossuth spoke from the platform. A committee was nominated to carry out the resolutions.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

CHARLOTTE BRONTE, wife of the Rev. Arthur Bell Nicholls (known to the public by her literary name of Currer Bell), died at Haworth Parsonage, Yorkshire, on the 31st ult.

ROBERT WALLACE, Esq., formerly member for Greenock, died of bronchitis, at Seafield Cottage, near Greenock, on the 1st inst., aged 82.

VISCOUNT BOYNE died on the 30th ult., in his 78th year. R. C. CARPENTER, Esq., the eminent architect, died on the 27th ult., aged 43.

MAJOR-GENERAL E. J. O'BRIEN died at York on the 28th ult., aged 82.

THE ARCH-DUCHESS MARY DOROTHY, widow of the Prince Palatine Joseph, has died at Buda, aged 58.

THE HEREDITARY PRINCESS OF SAXE-MEININGEN died suddenly on the 30th ult., in her 23rd year.

LADY COTTON, widow of Admiral Sir Charles Cotton, died on the 12th inst., at Madingley, in Cambridgeshire, at the great age of 92. Her death was accelerated by the news that her own nephew, and the husband of her niece, had died in the Crimea; and that two of her grandsons—sons of Lady King—were on their way to the seat of war.

SIR HENRY DE LA BECHE died suddenly from an attack of paralysis on the 13th inst., aged 59.

M. DUROS, the French Minister of Marine, died in Paris on the 17th inst.

M. ALONZO, formerly Minister of Justice in Spain, died at Madrid on the 12th inst.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE dates from *Bombay* by the Overland Mail are to the 18th of March. The following is a summary of the intelligence from India:—"Mr. Lawrence has gone to Peshawur to negotiate a treaty with Dost Mahomed. Lord Dalhousie was at the Nielgherries. The reorganisation of the Military Departments is complete, and the system works admirably. All usury-laws throughout

India have been abolished. The natives are petitioning the Council for an act to prevent polygamy.

"No intelligence from China."

From our other colonies and dependencies there has been little intelligence during this month, and it has been destitute of interest.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE official intelligence from the army before *Sebastopol* was brought down in our last number to the 10th of March. In his next despatch, on the 13th, Lord Raglan speaks principally of the progress of the Russians in pushing forward their advanced works. They were endeavouring to erect a battery on a small eminence called "the mamelon" in front of the besiegers' position. "The enemy," Lord Raglan says, "commenced working upon the mamelon in front of the tower of Malakoff in the night of Friday; but the nature of the work, from the thickness of the atmosphere, could not be distinguished. Great progress, however, had been perceived on Sunday; and that night a strong working party of the British troops was occupied in commencing a parallel from the advanced point of our right attack, with a view to form a junction with the corresponding parallel to be made on their side by the French, who began it on the following evening; and much was done to forward the operation before daylight this morning, and it is hoped that the object will be completed to-night."

Under date 17th he continues to report—

"The progress of the parallel, which I reported to your lordship in my despatch of the 13th instant, has not been as rapid as was anticipated; the ground being extremely rocky, and the difficulty of procuring cover consequently excessive, and rendering it almost impossible to carry on the operation during the day. Both the English and the French have now, however, succeeded in establishing the communication between them. Her Majesty's troops have not been assailed; but our allies have been kept constantly in action; and they have succeeded in driving the enemy from the rifle-pits, in which they had established themselves in their immediate front, with distinguished gallantry and great perseverance. They, however, have sustained some loss, though not equal to that which they have inflicted upon their opponents. A steady fire has been maintained upon the mamelon in the occupation of the enemy, from the guns in our right attack; and the practice of both the navy and the artillery has been conspicuously good, and reflects the highest credit on those branches of her Majesty's service."

Corresponding accounts are given in the despatches of General Canrobert.

These operations of both parties have been attended with several desperate conflicts. In pushing forward their advances, the Russians dug and covered a number of "rifle-pits," or holes protected by sand-bags and embankments, to serve as cover for their riflemen. The possession of these rifle-pits became the subject of contention between the Russians and the French. Lord Raglan, in a despatch of March 20th says:—"The contest of the French with the enemy for the possession of the rifle-pits in their immediate front was renewed after dark on that night [the 17th March], and was continued for several hours, the fire being excessively heavy, particularly of musketry; and considerable loss must have been sustained by our allies, I fear, as well as by the enemy, who continue to hold the ambuscades: but the French persevere, notwithstanding, in working forward, and are approaching the mamelon on which the Russians are busily engaged in building a formidable work, though frequently interrupted by our batteries and those of the French. On the night of the 17th the English parallels were not attacked; but the fire to which I

have above alluded was so continuous, that the whole force was either under arms or ready to turn out."

This contest was bloody. The French force consisted of 700 men; and as soon as it was dark they advanced upon the pits, creeping along the ground when discovered, and firing and dashing on with the bayonet when sufficiently near to use that weapon with effect. In this way, but losing men fast, the French drove the enemy from his first line of pits upon the second. Unable to hold the ground, however, they fell back fighting; and meeting on their way 800 fresh men sent to aid the attack, they returned to the charge. By this time the whole of the British and the French divisions, alarmed by the rolling fire of musketry, were all under arms, and in readiness for a general attack. The firing and onset of the French were so steady that they carried the first and part of the second line; but once more the heavy volleys of the Russian infantry compelled the French to give ground: the Russians twice followed them in their retreat up to the French lines, and were twice driven back; the whole affair winding up with a cannonade. On the succeeding nights the French kept up a heavy fire of shells on the spot where it was supposed the Russians were constructing works; and during the days a British mortar made splendid practice among the rifle-pits in advance of Malakoff, sweeping them down and driving out their occupants.

Thus matters proceeded till the 22nd of March. On the night of that day a sortie was made by the Russians on the French lines in front of the Malakoff tower; but it was vigorously repulsed by the French and English after an obstinate fight, and with serious loss on both sides. The particulars of this affair are given by Lord Raglan in a despatch, dated March 20th.

"On the morning of the 22nd the French troops in the advanced parallel moved forward, and drove the enemy out of the rifle pits in their immediate front, but nothing of any importance occurred during the day. Early in the night, however, a serious attack was made upon the works of our allies in front of the Victoria redoubt, opposite the Malakoff tower. The night was very dark, and the wind so high, that the firing which took place, and which was very heavy, could scarcely be heard in the British camp; it is therefore difficult to speak with certainty of what occurred from anything that could be heard or observed at the moment. It appears, however, that the Russians, after attacking the head of the sap which the French are carrying on towards the mamelon, fell with two heavy masses on their new parallel, to the rear of which they succeeded in penetrating and momentarily possessing themselves of, after a gallant resistance on the part of our allies. Having broken through, they passed along the parallel and in rear of it, until they came in contact with the troops stationed in our advanced parallel extending into the ravine, from the right of our advance, where it connects with the French trench. The enemy was here met by detachments of the 77th and 97th Regiments, forming part of the guard of the trenches, who, although thus taken suddenly both in flank and rear, behaved with the utmost gallantry and coolness. The detachments of the 97th, which was on the extreme right, and which consequently first came in contact with the enemy, repulsed the attack at the point of the bayonet. They were led by Captain Vicars, who, unfortunately, lost his life on the occasion; and I am assured that nothing could be more distinguished than the gallantry and good example which he set to the detachment under

his command. The conduct of the detachment of the 77th was equally distinguished; and the firmness and promptitude with which the attack in this part of our works was met, were in the highest degree creditable to that regiment. These troops were under the direction of Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, who was wounded on the occasion so severely, as for some time, I fear, to deprive the army of the benefit of his valuable services. The attention of the troops in our advanced works having been by these transactions drawn to the right, the enemy took occasion to move upon, and succeeded in penetrating into, the left front of our right attack, near the battery where two 10-inch mortars have recently been placed. They advanced along the works until they were met by a detachment of the 7th and 34th Regiments, which had been at work in the neighbourhood, under the direction of Lieut.-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, who promptly made them stand to their arms, and led them with the greatest determination and steadiness against the enemy, who were speedily ejected from the works, and fairly pitched over the parapet, with but little or no firing on our part. Lieut.-Colonel Tylden speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the troops on this occasion, and particularly of that of Lieut. Marsh, Acting Adjutant of the 33rd Regiment, whose services and activity throughout the night were very useful to him. Captain the Hon. Cavendish Brown, of the 7th, and Lieut. Jordan, of the 34th Regiment, were unfortunately killed in this attack, after displaying the most distinguished gallantry; and Lieut. M'Henry, of the former regiment, was wounded, but I hope not very severely. Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who commanded in the trenches, is, I regret to have to add, missing. The French, in retiring from their advanced parallel upon their supports, speedily rallied, and fell upon the enemy, whom they repulsed with great loss, and followed so far up towards the manœuvres, that they were enabled to level and destroy nearly all the 'ambuscades' or 'rifle concealments' erected along their front. I fear, however, that this success has not been accomplished without considerable loss on their part, although that of the enemy is much greater. Yesterday the whole of the ground between the posts of the two armies was covered with their dead, amounting to several hundreds, besides those which they had undoubtedly carried off before daylight. In the meanwhile, the enemy in great numbers found their way into the advanced batteries on our extreme left, which are not yet armed, and momentarily got possession of them. The working parties were, however, speedily collected and re-formed by Captain Chapman, of the 20th Regiment, Acting Engineer, and they at once drove the enemy out of the trenches with the utmost gallantry. Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, who was superintending the works, unfortunately fell into the hands of the enemy. I enclose the return of casualties to the 22nd inclusive. The wind is excessively high, but the weather is in other respects fine."

General Canrobert, in his despatch giving an account of this affair, points out the momentous character of the struggle. "This operation," he says, "of the besieged has differed completely from all those which he has hitherto attempted against our works. In order to insure its success, and notwithstanding the strength of the garrison, considerable as that is, he brought up from without, two regiments (eight battalions) of fresh troops (those of Duneper and Ouglitch). It was a species of general assault against our lines of communication; and the combination appeared uncommonly well devised for obtaining a great result. The importance of this failure on the part of the besieged ought to be estimated by the greatness of the object he had in view. The prisoners we have made state that his loss has been enormous; and, taking into account the masses he employed, we think that this combat, irregular as all nocturnal combats are, and the firing at which lasted several hours, must have cost him at least from 1000 to 1200 men. The ground in front of our parallels is strewed with the dead; and General Osten-Sacken has just demanded of us an armistice, which has been granted and fixed for to-morrow, in order that the last honours may be paid to the fallen."

The correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 23rd, gives the following particulars of this night-battle:— "Between 11 and 12 o'clock last night columns of Russian infantry came suddenly upon the men in our advanced trenches, and rushed in upon them on the right with the bayonet before we were quite prepared to receive them. When they were first discerned, they were close at hand, and, on being challenged, they replied with the universal shibboleth, 'Bono Francie.' In another moment they were bayonetting our men, who had barely time to snatch their arms and defend themselves. Taken at a great disadvantage, and pressed by superior numbers, our men met the assault with undaunted courage, and drove the Russians out at the point of the bayonet after smart fire. The Russians pursued by our shot, retired under cover of the batteries.—The attack seems to have been general along the line. At half-past 8 o'clock last night the French batteries began to shell the town, while their rockets were poured every five minutes in streams into the place. At 10 o'clock, our sentries in advance of Chapman's attack gave notice that the Russians were assembling in force in front of the works. The 20th, 21st, and the 57th Regiments were in the trenches on the left attack, and they were, to a certain extent, prepared for the assault of the enemy. About the same time the French on the right of our right attack, which is separated from the left attack by a deep ravine, were assailed by masses of the enemy. As our allies were hardly pressed, orders were given to advance the troops in a portion of the trenches, consisting of a part of the Light Division, to their support. On the left attack the Russians, advancing with impetuosity through a weak part of the defence, turned the third parallel, and took it in reverse. They killed and wounded some of our men, and had advanced to the second parallel, when our covering party and the men in the trenches of the batteries came down upon them and drove them over the works after a sharp conflict. The 20th Regiment lost 2 men killed, 6 wounded badly, and 3 missing. The 57th lost 3 killed, 4 wounded, and 18 missing. The 21st lost 3 killed, 5 wounded, and 1 missing. These are the returns, so far as I can ascertain the truth at an early hour this morning, but it is probable that some of the missing men will turn up, as these regiments have not yet come out of the trenches. On the right the attack was more serious and sudden. Our men had been ordered out to the support of the French from one part of their lines, and while they were away, the Russians came up to the flank of the works, and took them in reverse, so that they had to fight their way back to get to their position. The gallant old 7th Fusiliers had to run the gauntlet of a large body of the enemy, whom they drove back *à la fourchette*. One brave young fellow, the Hon. Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, was killed. Two or three musket-balls passed through his body. The 34th Regiment had an enormous force to contend against, and as their brave Colonel, Kelly, was leading them on, he was shot down, and carried off by the enemy. His dead body was found outside the trenches this morning. The 77th behaved most gallantly, and the 97th proved themselves worthy of their position in the glorious old Light Division. In the midst of the fight, Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, displayed that cool courage and presence of mind which never forsake him. With a little switch in his hand, he encouraged the men to defend the trenches, and, standing up on the top of the parapet, all unarmed as he was, he hurled down stones on the Russians. He was struck by a ball, which passed through the lower part of his arm, and at the same time he received a bullet through the shoulder. We are all rejoiced that he is not dangerously wounded, and that the army will not long be deprived of his services. After an hour's fight the enemy were driven back, but we have to deplore the loss of the following officers, killed, wounded, or missing:—Colonel Kelly, 34th Regiment, killed; Lieutenant Jordan, 97th Regiment, killed; Captain Cavendish Browne, 7th Regiment, killed; Lieutenant Viears, 97th Regiment, wounded; Captain Montague, Royal Engineers, missing; and Major Gordon, Royal Engineers, wounded."

It was afterwards discovered that Colonel Kelly, supposed to have been killed, had been taken prisoner

by the Russians after being wounded. Some further details, of great interest, are given of this memorable conflict. "When the mortar battery," says the *Times* correspondent, "was carried by an enormous force of the enemy, they held it for about fifteen minutes, and were dislodged by a handful of men, who, according to the statements made to me, displayed the utmost gallantry and daring. Our men do not relish night fighting. They would sooner meet 10,000 Russians by day, than 2000 in the dark, but the circumstances attending this act evince the greatest coolness and bravery on the part of the men and officers engaged in it. At the time the heavy fire between the French and Russians was going on a portion of the 90th Regiment were employed on fatigue duty on the right of the new advanced works on our right attack. They were in the act of returning to their posts in the Gordon battery just at the moment the heavy firing on the right had ceased, when a scattered irregular fusilade commenced in the dark on the left of their position close to the mortar battery. Captain Vaughton, who commanded the party of the 90th, ordered his men to advance along the covered way to the works. They moved up in double time, and found the Russians in complete possession of the mortar battery. The 90th at once opened as heavy a fire of musketry as they could upon the enemy, who returned it, but the coolness and steadiness of our men were giving us the advantage, when an alarm was given that our men were firing on the French; but the mistake was speedily discovered by the enemy's fire being poured in with more deadly effect, and the small party of the 90th were thrown into great confusion. Captain Vaughton at this moment shouted, 'Men of the 90th follow me!' and Sergeant Henry Clarke, Sergeant Brittle, a sergeant of the 7th Fusiliers, about fourteen men of the 90th, and a few of the 7th, dashed out of the confused ranks, and rushed right into the mortar battery. In a few moments these brave fellows drove the enemy beyond the first traverse, and at the narrow way leading into the second traverse they made a stand, and opened a heavy flanking fire on the parapet, over which the Russians were making determined efforts to come upon them. The narrow pass was meantime defended by the sergeants and a few men, who delivered fire as fast as they could load right into the Russians, who gradually began to give way. With a loud 'hurrah' the gallant little band sprang with the bayonet upon the enemy, who at once precipitately retired over the parapet, followed by our rifle balls, which were poured in upon them incessantly, till every round in the men's pouches was expended. In order to keep up the fire, the men groped about among the dead Russians, and exhausted all the cartridges they could find in the enemy's pouches. At the first charge at the Mortar Battery the Russian leader, who wore an Albanian costume, and whose gallantry was most conspicuous, fell dead. As an act of justice, the names of the officers and men of the party of the 90th Regiment whose conduct was distinguished in this affair should be recorded. They are—Clarke, Brittle, and Essex (sergeants), Carnthers, severely wounded (corporal), Fare, Walsh, Nicholson (wounded), and Nash. Captain Vaughton received a severe contusion in the affair. The courage displayed by Captain Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, in another part of the works, was most conspicuous. He was severely wounded at the commencement of the attack, but he refused to go to the rear, though nearly fainting from loss of blood. He led on his men, encouraging them by voice and gesture, to the front. When his body was found, it lay far in advance of our line, with three balls in the chest. The 77th Regiment behaved admirably, and Major-General Codrington has communicated to the 88th (and I believe to the other regiments of the brigade of the Light Division engaged) the satisfaction of Sir George Brown at their gallant conduct. It is not known how many Albanian chiefs there were with the Russians, but certainly the two who were killed led them on with intrepidity and ferocious courage. One of them, who struggled into the battery in spite of a severe wound, while his life-blood was ebbing fast, rushed at a powder barrel and fired his pistol into it before he fell. Fortunately the powder did not explode, as the fire did not

go through the wood. Another charged, with a cimeter in one hand and a formidable curved blade, which he used as a dagger, in the other, right into our ranks twice, and fell dead the second time, perforated with balls and bayonets. They were magnificently dressed, and it is supposed they were men of rank."

On the 24th of March there was an armistice of two hours, to bury the slain. The scene is described by the same graphic pen:—

"It was arranged that two hours should be granted for collecting and carrying away the dead bodies on both sides. The news spread through the camps; and the races which the Chasseurs d'Afrique had got up in excellent style were much shorn of their attractions by the opportunity afforded us of meeting our enemies on neutral ground. All the ravines leading to the front trenches were crowded with officers hastening on horse and foot down to the scene of so much hard fighting. The crests of the hills and the slopes in front of the batteries were covered with men; and they dotted the deadly interval between the batteries, which had been before occupied alone by thousands of tons of shot and fragments of shell discharged by French and English and Russians during this protracted siege. The day was beautifully bright and warm. White flags waved gently in the faint spring breeze above the embrasures of our batteries, and from the round tower and mamelon. Not a soul had been visible in front of the lines an instant before the emblems of peace were run up to the flagstaffs; and a sullen gun from the mamelon and a burst of smoke from Gordon's batteries had but a short time previously heralded the armistice. The instant the flags were hoisted, friend and foe swarmed out of the embrasures. The riflemen of the allies and of the enemy rose from their lairs in the rifle-pits, and sauntered towards each other to behold their grim handiwork. The whole of the space between the Russian lines and our own was filled with groups of unarmed soldiery. Passing down by the middle picket ravine, which is now occupied by the French, and which runs down in front of the Light Division camp, I came out upon the advanced French trench, within a few hundred yards of the mamelon. The sight was strange beyond description. French, English, and Russian officers, were walking about saluting each other courteously as they passed, and occasionally entering into conversation; and a constant interchange of little civilities, such as offering and receiving cigar-lights was going on in each little group. Some of the Russian officers were evidently men of high rank and breeding. Their polished manners contrasted remarkably with their plain and rather coarse clothing. They wore, with few exceptions, the invariable long grey coat over their uniforms. The French officers were all en grande tenue, and offered a striking contrast to many of our own officers, who were dressed à la Balaklava, and wore uncouth head-dresses, catskin coats, and nondescript paletots. Many of the Russians looked remarkably like English gentlemen in 'style' of face and bearing. One tall, fine-looking old man, with a long grey beard and strangely-shaped cap, was pointed out to us as Hetman of the Cossacks in the Crimea; but it did not appear as if there were many men of high military rank present. The Russians were rather grave and reserved; but they seem to fraternise with the French better than with ourselves, and the men certainly got on better with our allies than with the few privates of our own regiments who were down towards the front. But while all this civility was going on, we were walking among the dead, over blood-stained ground, covered with evidences of recent fight. Broken muskets, bayonets, cartridge-boxes, caps, fragments of clothing, straps and belts, pieces of shell, little pools of clotted blood, shot, round and grape, shattered gabions and sandbags, were visible around us on every side; and through the midst of the crowd stalked a solemn procession of soldiers bearing their departed comrades to their long home. I counted seventy-seven litters borne past me in fifteen minutes, each filled with a dead enemy. The contortions of the slain were horrible, and recalled the memories of the fields of Alma and Inkermann. Some few French were lying far in advance towards the mamelon and Round Tower, among the gabions belonging to the French

advanced trenches, which the Russians had broken down. They had evidently been slain in pursuit of the enemy. The Russians appeared to treat their dead with great respect. The soldiers I saw were white-faced, and seemed ill-fed, though many of them had powerful frames, square shoulders, and broad chests. All their dead who fell within and near our lines were stripped of boots and stockings. The cleanliness of their feet, and, in most cases, of their coarse linen shirts, was remarkable. Several sailors of the 'équipages' of the fleet of Sebastopol were killed in the attack. They were generally muscular, fine stout fellows, with rough, soldierly faces. The Russians carried off all the dead which lay outside our lines to the town, passing down between the mamelon and the Round Tower. In the midst of all this stern evidence of war, a certain amount of lively conversation began to spring up, in which the Russian officers indulged in a little badinage. Some of them asked our officers 'when we were coming in to take the place?' others, 'when we thought of going away?' Some congratulated us upon the excellent opportunity we had of getting a good look at Sebastopol, as the chance of a nearer view, except on similar occasions, was not, in their opinion, very probable. One officer asked a private confidentially, in English, how many men we sent into the trenches? 'Begorra, only seven thousand a night, and a wake covering party of ten thousand,' was the ready reply. The officer laughed, and turned away. At one time a Russian with a litter stopped by a dead body, and put it into the litter. He looked round for a comrade to help him. A Zouave at once advanced with much grace and lifted it, to the infinite amusement of the bystanders; but the joke was not long-lived, as a Russian brusquely came up and helped to carry off his dead comrade. In the town we could see large bodies of soldiery in the streets, assembled at the corners, and in the public places. Probably they were ordered out to make a show of their strength. The Russians denied that Prince Menschikoff was dead, but they admitted that Admiral Isturmin was killed. He was one of the principal officers engaged in the destruction of the Turkish fleet at Sinope; and the Czar had rewarded him by giving an order of St. George of higher distinction than that worn by Prince Menschikoff, and of a class which is generally accorded only to successful generals who have conducted an army and closed a triumphant campaign. A distinguished-looking man, who complained that he was likely to be deprived of his cruise in his yacht this year by the war, was pointed out to us as Prince Bariatinski. Owing to some misunderstanding or other, a little fusillade began among the riflemen on the left during the armistice, and disturbed our attention for a moment; but it was soon terminated. General Bosquet and several officers of rank of the allied army visited the trenches during the armistice; and staff-officers were present on both sides to see that the men did not go out of bounds. The armistice was over about three o'clock. Scarcely had the white flag disappeared behind the parapet of the mamelon before a round-shot from the sailors' battery went slap through one of the embrasures of the Russian work, and dashed up a great pillar of earth inside. The Russians at once replied, and the noise of cannon soon re-echoed through the ravines. It was curious to observe the masses of shot and shell in the ravines which had been fired by the enemy at our men on their way to and from the trenches. It was impossible for them to see us, but they poured their shot and shell right into the path from the Round Tower, the mamelon, and the ships."

Captain Hill, of the 89th lost his life by an unfortunate accident. Proceeding to post his pickets in advance of the extreme left, Captain Hill got too near the Russians; he replied in French to their challenge, thinking they were French; two fired, and Captain Hill fell, wounded. The two or three men with him ran back for assistance; but when they returned, his body had been removed. Another officer lost his life through an unfortunate mistake. On the night of the 17th, Dr. Leblanc, surgeon of the 9th regiment, left his tent, and, as he was near-sighted, it is supposed that he lost his way. He reached the French camp; and, not

answering the "qui vie" of the sentinel, he was shot dead. General Canrobert wrote to Lord Raglan expressing great sorrow for this unhappy occurrence.

In this manner things went on till the 9th instant, when the long expected bombardment commenced. The French and English approaches had been carried nearer and nearer the Russian lines; a constant fire had been kept up on both sides, with several bloody conflicts in the trenches. One of these was brought about by the meeting of two adverse working parties in front of the right attack; which shows the fatal proximity of the rival armies. Assailed by a very superior force, the English managed, nevertheless, to defeat their opponents, but with a loss to themselves of one officer—Lieutenant "Inkerman" Jones of the Seventh, and 37 killed and wounded. The enemy's loss is computed at 150. M. St. Laurent, commanding the French Engineers on the right attack, and Captain Bainbridge, Royal Engineers, have been killed, the former by a rifle, the latter by a shell. There are despatches from Lord Raglan to Lord Panmure, dated respectively the 3rd and 7th instant, and enclosing reports from Dr. Hall, and the usual return of casualties. Dr. Hall reports a marked improvement in the health of the troops. Hospital preparations for a "sudden emergency" had been made both in the camp and by the sea transport service, for 2080 men.

"Battalions and considerable convoys," Lord Raglan writes on the 7th, "have entered the town, and other bodies of troops have been seen to leave the north side. The garrison has been constantly engaged in adding to the works, and particularly in connecting the rifle-pits in the immediate front of our right attack; and, as we have pushed forward, the fire upon our advance has occasioned more loss, I deeply regret to say, than we have sustained since the sortie of the 23rd March."

The following despatch from Lord Raglan, dated the 10th instant, gives a brief account of the opening of the bombardment.

"My Lord,—In accordance with the arrangement made between General Canrobert and myself, the batteries of the French and English arms opened-upon Sebastopol soon after daylight yesterday morning. The weather was extremely unpropitious. Much rain had fallen in the course of the night, and it continued during the day, accompanied by a tempestuous wind and a heavy mist, which obscured everything, and rendered it impossible to ascertain, with any degree of accuracy, the effect of the fire, which has been continued with little or no interruption from the commencement, and has been superior to that of the enemy, who were evidently taken by surprise, and, except upon the extreme left, did not respond to the attack for nearly half an hour.

"This morning has been hazy, and for some time there was a drizzling rain, but it is clearing this afternoon, and there is again a prospect of fine weather. The country yesterday was covered with water, and the ground was again very deep. The trenches were likewise extremely muddy, and their condition added greatly to the labours of the men employed in the batteries, who consisted chiefly of sailors, artillerymen, and sappers. They conducted their duties admirably, and I am sorry to say that the two former, particularly the navy, sustained considerable loss.

"I have not yet received the returns of the casualties beyond the 9th instant, which are herewith enclosed; but the death of Lieutenant Twyford, of the Royal Navy, a most promising officer, and greatly respected by all, has been notified to me; and Captain Lord John Hay, who has taken a most active part in the gallant and distinguished services of the Naval Brigade, was wounded almost at the very moment, I believe by the same shot. I hope the injury he has received is not very serious, but the loss of his assistance, even for a time, is much to be regretted. The Russians have not shown themselves in any force in front of Balaklava."

The correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 9th while the bombardment was going on, gives a description of the scene.

"On Easter Sunday (he says) the French had grand mass in each of their camps, with all the pomp of military bands, and divine service was performed, as usual, in each of the English divisions. Our sailors

brought up two large guns to the front with great alacrity, but I believe it was not found possible to assign a position for them. Late in the day, hearing that there was nothing likely to take place on Monday, I left the front, and returned to Balaklava, but in the course of the evening I received an intimation at my quarters that fire would open at daybreak the following morning. It was then black as Erebus, and raining and blowing with violence, but there was no choice for it but to take to the saddle again, and try to make one's way to the front. The rain fell incessantly and heavily, and the wind blew with violence all night. At 4 o'clock on Monday morning a small party, disguised in water-proofs and long boots, left the camp for the front, as it was quite certain that orders had been sent to the batteries to open fire at daybreak. The horses could scarcely get through the sticky black mud into which the hard dry soil had been turned by one night's rain, and, although it was early dawn, it was not possible to see a man twenty yards off. A Scotch mist, mingled with rain, settled down on the whole camp. As we approached the front there was a profound silence in the camp. Suddenly three guns were heard on the left towards the French lines, and the whole line of our batteries opened at once. The volume of sound was not near so great or so deafening as that of the 17th of October, and the state of the weather rendered it quite out of the question to form a notion of the gradual effect of our fire, so that the most interesting portion of the day's proceedings was lost. Just as the cannonade opened the sailors came streaming over the hills from the batteries, where they had been relieved, and a few men turned out of the huts in the Third Division to the front, evidently very much astonished at the sudden opening of the fire. On Cathcart's-hill only one or two officers were visible, and Sir John Campbell and an aide-de-camp on foot in front of the general's tent watching the fire. The rain then descended in torrents, and, as there was nothing to be seen, heard, or learnt, everyone withdrew to shelter after a long and hopeless struggle with the weather. Colonel Dacres was the only officer I saw out in front of Cathcart's-hill when I went up, with the exception of Sir John Campbell. General Jones visited the batteries during the fire, and Lord Raglan, I presume, stationed himself at his favourite place, which it would be hazardous to mention, lest the siege might last longer than we hope, whence he can get a fair view of almost the whole of the batteries in fine weather. The storm was so heavy that scarcely a soul stirred out all day. It was dark almost as night. About five o'clock the sun slowly descended into a rift in the dark grey pall which covered the sky, and cast a pale yellow slice of light, barred here and there by columns of rain and masses of curling vapour, across the line of batteries. The outlines of the town, faintly rendered through the mists of smoke and rain, seemed quivering inside the circling lines of fire around and from them, but they were the same familiar outlines so well known to us for the last seven months—the same green cupola and roofs, and long streets and ruined suburbs, the same dockyard buildings, and dark trenches and batteries. The little details of ruin and destruction which must have taken place after to-day's fire could not be ascertained. The eye of painter never rested on a more extraordinary effect, and his art alone could have rendered justice to the scene which shone out on us for moment, as the sickly sun, flattened out, as it were, between bars of cloud and rain, seemed to have forced its way through the leaden sky to cast one straitened look on the conflict which raged below. The plateau beneath our standing place was lighted up by incessant flashes of light, and long trails of white smoke streamed across it, spouting up in thick masses, tinged with fire, for a moment, till they were whirled away in broader volumes by the wind. In the deep glow of the parting gleam of sunset the only image suggested to me calculated to convey the actual effect of the fire of the batteries to our friends at home was a vision of the Potteries' district as it is seen at night, all fervid with fire and pillars of smoke, out of the windows of an express train. This glimpse of the batteries, brief as it was, proved extremely satisfactory. On

the extreme left the French batteries were firing with energy on the long line of batteries in front of the loop-holed wall, and on the Flagstaff and Garden Batteries, which were replying very faintly and feebly by one or two scattered guns. Our left attack (Greenhill or Chapman's Batteries), working with vigour and precision, was principally directing its fire against the Redan, which only answered by five or six guns, which did not appear to be remarkably well served or aimed. Our right attack (Gordon's Batteries), aided by the advanced battery and by the French redoubts, had silenced the Mamelon, and fired some three or four shots for every one from the Round Tower, and the Russian batteries to the right of the Mamelon were voiceless. So much could be seen when rain and mist set in once more, and shut out all from view, save one faint blear of yellowish haze to the west." The writer concludes his letter at half-past eleven at night. "The rain has ceased and the night is fine. A tremendous cannonade has raged along our lines since six o'clock, to which the enemy reply feebly. Great quantities of shells have been thrown into the place within the last four hours. Some trifling affairs of advanced posts have taken place in the ravines, but as yet there is no appearance of a strong sortie. The Russians seem to lack ammunition. No fires are visible in the town, nor can it be ascertained if the cannonade has caused much damage. The trumpets of the artillery of the third division have just sounded close at hand, and I must cut short my letter for the present."

The latest intelligence of the progress of the siege is contained in a despatch from Admiral Bruat to the French Minister of Marine. The Admiral says:—"In front of the central tower we have carried a series of ambuscades, and have established ourselves in these works, which are now comprised in our lines. We have crowned a ravine in the same direction, which runs along the fortifications of the town, where the enemy formerly kept its reserves in safety. Before the flagstaff bastion we have sprung [mines, at a distance of about fifty metres. This operation having perfectly succeeded has given us a new parallel, which has been successfully joined to the others. From the 12th to the 14th, notwithstanding the offensive returns of the Russians, we had only about 300 men *hors de combat*."

The commander of the frigate which brought the Admiral's despatch from Sebastopol states that in the camp the general state of affairs was considered very satisfactory.

Eupatoria, which is garrisoned by Turkish troops, has been strengthened by new works enclosing a large circuit. On the 28th March the Bashi-bazouks made a reconnaissance with signal success and signal ferocity, fairly surprised the Cossack outposts and drove them in; but out of about 400 engaged on either side, the Bashi-bazouks only lost one man and two horses, the Cossacks two men and three horses killed and one wounded. The Bashi-bazouks behaved with characteristic ferocity to the only officer who fell into their hands. But the surprise was admirably managed and the enemy was fairly defeated.

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, in speaking of this affair, gives a remarkable description of these irregular troops, the Bashi-bazouks:—

"Attempts to discipline these men are useless. They must be taken and used as they are, or not at all. They do the work of scouts excellently; they would annoy and alarm the enemy, threaten his convoys, harass infantry, &c., as well as any Cossacks, but they can never be prevented from plundering, burning, slaughtering the wounded, unarmed, defenceless. Three days ago, about four in the afternoon, the Bashi-bazouks went out, two or three hundred strong, pushed over the plain to the left, came suddenly on the Cossack outposts, drove them in, and opened a smart fusillade with the supports. The Cossacks were repulsed, three or four were knocked over, and, as they lay on the ground wounded, were massacred without mercy. An officer, whose horse became unmanageable, found himself surrounded by half a dozen. He fell under repeated blows of the lance and sabre; in one instant he was despoiled of all that was valuable of his arms and

equipment, and his clothes were then set fire to while he was still breathing. The only consolation which existed for any horror-stricken spectator lay in the fact that the unfortunate man cannot have survived many minutes. Few scenes I have ever witnessed were at once more picturesque and horribly impressive than that which met my eyes when the Bashi-bazouks began to retire in wild disorder to the monotonous rub-a-dub of their two drums. The Cossacks had been driven off in complete rout, and were riding about, three or four hundred in number, on the hill side, like a large flock of sheep, awaiting reinforcements of regular cavalry. Twenty or thirty Bashi-bazouks were chasing a loose horse in the ruined village in the hollow, under the very noses of the enemy, who did not dare to interfere; the rest were returning from the fray, yelling, whirling their lances about, carrying on conversations, altogether at the top of their voices, in that least harmonious of all languages, Arabic; some were running races, bellowing 'Allah-illah-Allah!' in the height of their mad enthusiasm, and others were ambling steadily along, hidden under the huge bundles of hay which the Cossacks had left behind; one bore in triumph a pot from which he had emptied some hot soup; others were laden with sacks of barley, others with boots; a few had carried off lances, nearly all had something. Every man seemed in a state of fierce and savage elation, and evidently looked on the skirmish as a *faid d'armes* of no ordinary brilliancy. One fine-looking young fellow, certainly not more than twenty years of age, with eyes of fire, coal-black moustaches, curled and trimmed in a way that would excite the envy of many "a gent in the Guards," joined my companion and myself as we rode home, and in broken Turkish, his features glowing with excitement, told us the story of his share in the fray. He sat his horse with a grace and solidity that no riding-school could ever give, and brandished a Cossack lance in his hand. I shall never forget the expression of brutal ferocity which passed over his fine face when he recounted that, passing two wounded Cossacks lying on the ground—and he laughingly imitated their groans—he fired upon them and finished them. All this while his comrades were yelling and prancing around us like so many devils broken loose. I was considerably amused by the manner in which the Tartars and Turkish soldiers received the Bashi-bazouks on their entry into the town. Each man, as they defiled through the gates with his item of plunder, was evidently looked upon as a hero. Here and there eager groups surrounded solitary Bashis, who, from out bundles of forage, told the story of the fight to their delighted auditory. No rhapsodist was ever listened to in Homeric days with more devout attention. A single glance at the faces of the hearers was sufficient to reveal the thought which at that moment filled the breasts of every one of them. 'These are real soldiers; we, with our drill, and muskets, and yreshashis, bunhashis, and what not, are but humbugs. That's the way war should be carried on.' Laugh at this one might; but who could avoid seeing in it a flash of departed glory and bygone times, when battles were won and kingdoms gained in that very way, by the rush of hosts of Bashi-bazouks? The poor Turks often forgot that the times are changed, and the men too."

Despatches from Sir E. Lyons, dated the 11th of March, give an account of the *Operations on the eastern shores of the Black Sea*. The first of these reports the destruction, by Lieut. Armytage, of the Viper, of the martello tower and barracks of Dijmitiea, which had been recently erected for the defence of the direct communication between Anapa and Kertch, results which were accomplished without any loss on his part. The second despatch reports an attack made upon Soujak-Kalé by Captain Giffard, of the Leopard, accompanied by the Highflyer, Swallow, and Viper, and also by the French steamship-of-war Fulton. Sir Edmund says: "Captain Giffard was informed by the Circassians in the neighbourhood that the enemy had so reduced the strength of that fortress by the removal of men and guns to Anapa, that they were ready to attack it by land if he would do so by sea; and that he, wishing to encourage the natives and to embarrass the Russians, had assented

to the proposal, and moved the ships to within 1,000 yards of the south face of the fort, where he performed his part; but that on finding the Circassians did not perform theirs, he withdrew, after having driven all the garrison out of the place, with the exception of a few gunners in the earthen batteries, and having also dismounted several guns, and done considerable damage to the arsenal and public works, leaving the garrison about a mile from the place, surrounded by Circassians, who were collecting reinforcements."

The *Baltic Fleet* sailed from Portsmouth on the 4th inst. The ships which sailed were the following: they are placed here as they appeared from the shore standing towards the Nab. *Port Division*:—Magicienne, 16, Fisher; Blenheim, 60, Hall; Colossus, 80, Robinson; Duke of Wellington, 131, (Flag); Gorgon, 6, Crawford; Cressy, 81, Warren; Bulldog, 9, Gordon; Majestic, 81, Hope. *Starboard Division*:—Basilisk, 6, Jenner; James Watt, 91, Elliot; Hogue, 60, Ramsay; Edinburgh, 55, Hewlett; Cesar, 91, Robb; Ajax, 60, Warden; Nile, 91, Mundy; Exmouth, 91, (Flag); Royal George, 102, Codrington. The fleet sailed for Kiel, where it now lies. The latest intelligence states, that, "after taking in coals, the *Impériale* and *Euryalus* left Kiel harbour on the 15th. Two men-of-war passed Copenhagen on the 14th steering southwards. Four ships of the line are lying at anchor there."

The latest official account from the Crimea is contained in a despatch from Lord Raglan, dated the 14th of April. His lordship says:—"Since I wrote on the 10th instant, a steady and heavy fire upon the works of the enemy has been maintained from all the batteries of the allies. The practice both of the naval brigade and the artillery has been excellent. The casualties have not been very numerous, but the loss has fallen heavily upon the sailors, as your lordship will see by the accompanying returns, and the royal navy has to deplore the death of Lieut. Douglas, who had served with great ability and zeal from the commencement of the siege. Lieutenants Urmston and D'Aeth, royal navy, and Steele, royal marine artillery, all valuable officers, have been wounded. The Royal Artillery have also to lament the death of Lieutenant Luce, who was an officer of much promise; and Lieutenants Sinclair and L'Estrange are among the wounded. The former has sustained several severe injuries, but I am happy to add that there is every hope of his recovery. They are both highly meritorious officers. Captain Crofton, of the Royal Engineers, who had in the course of the protracted operations before Sebastopol rendered most essential service, has also received a wound, which will, I fear, detain him from duty for a very considerable time."

Accounts from *Genoa* state that on the 14th instant, the King of Sardinia reviewed a portion of the troops forming the Crimean contingent; and the chaplain of the division blessed the colours with which they are entrusted. After the troops had defiled before the King, the minister-of-war read to them the following speech in the name of his majesty:—"Officers, Sub-officers, and Soldiers.—A war, founded on justice, on which depends the tranquillity of Europe and the fate of our country, calls you to the East. You will see far lands, where the cross of Savoy is not unknown. You will see brave peoples and armies whose fame fills the world. Their example will be a stimulus to you to show to all that you have no less valour than our fathers. On other occasions I have led you on the field of honour, and I remember with pride sharing dangers and fatigues with you. I now grieve to separate myself from you for a time. My wishes will follow you everywhere, and it will be a happy day for me when I shall be reunited to you. Soldiers, there are your colours. Generously unfurled by the magnanimous Carlo Alberto, they record a distant country and eight centuries of noble traditions. You know how to defend them. Bring them back crowned with fresh glory, and your sacrifices will be blessed by the present and future generations." These sentiments elicited rounds of cheering. In the evening the King entertained the officers of the contingent, in the palace of Alexandria.—The fine screw-ship *Cæsarius*

was burnt to the water's edge soon after leaving Genoa, with the first detachment of the Sardinian contingent on board. The troops were saved, as well as the crew, with the exception of three sailors.

Another case of religious persecution has occurred at Florence. Domenicho Cecchetti, employed in the tobacco-factory of Fenzi & Co., bankers, who farm the tobacco monopoly — a widower with four children, a trusted and sober workman — possessed an Italian bible and two new testaments, which he read to his children at home. This fact came to the knowledge of a young man living in the same house, and employed by a vintner. He casually mentioned it to his master; adding, that "the bible could not be such a bad book after all, seeing that it produced such happy fruits" — as in the instance of the Cecchetti family. The vintner confessed what his apprentice had said about the Italian bible, and the priest at once suspended the confession and refused absolution. Next day, Buratti, a persecuting priest, met the vintner, much depressed in spirits; and inquiring the cause, found that it was because absolution had been refused. Buratti at once confessed and absolved him, and thus learned that Cecchetti was a protestant. The consequence was, that the police suddenly entered his rooms and seized the bibles. The matter rested here for nearly three months; but at last, on the 14th March, Cecchetti was ordered to appear before the chancellor of the delegation of Santa Maria Novella. This he did, and was subjected to a close examination respecting his religious belief; in the course of which he denied that the pope is the head of the church, and declared that he knew "no headship save that of Jesus Christ." He declined to answer any questions involving others. The chancellor sent a paper, containing the evidence, to the

council of prefecture; and on the 25th March, without further trial, Cecchetti was seized and taken to the penitentiary of Inbrogiano, there to suffer imprisonment for one year.

Advices from New York are to the 9th inst. The intelligence is not of much interest. The proposition to raise a foreign legion in Nova Scotia had caused some excitement in New York. No sooner was it known that foreigners would be enlisted at Halifax, than an enterprising Scotchman, Angus McDonald, advertised the fact in the New York journals, and opened an office avowedly for the purpose of assisting persons desirous of passing from New York to Halifax, really for the purpose of turning a penny by trafficking in recruits for the foreign legion. But he did not go far in this line. Seeing the advertisements, "John McKeon, United States District Attorney," forwarded a letter to the United States Marshal, stating that an office was open for the purpose of recruiting men for the British army, and calling his attention to the following section of the Act of Neutrality, which he desired the Marshal to enforce. "If any person shall, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, enlist or enter himself, or hire or retain another person to enlist or enter himself, or to go beyond the limits or jurisdiction of the United States, with intent to be enlisted or entered in the service of any foreign prince, state, colony, district, or people, as a soldier, a mariner, or seaman on board of any vessel of war, letter of marque, or privateer, every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanour, and be fined not exceeding 1000 dollars, and imprisoned not exceeding three years." This, of course, has stopped the Scotchman's speculation; but the notoriety given to the whole affair will probably send thousands of unemployed persons to Nova Scotia.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE unfavourable and repressive influences of war continue to be nowhere more manifest than in the character and number of new publications. During the past month Mr. Torrens McCullagh has published *Memoirs of Sheil*. Mr. Maurice has collected his lectures delivered at the Working-Men's College into a volume called *Learning and Working*. The Bishop of Natal, Doctor Colenso, has described the strange experiences and religious wants of his distant diocese in *Ten Weeks in Natal*. Mr. Sydney Godolphin Osborne has portrayed *Seutari and its Hospitals*, in a thin octavo, with illustrations taken on the spot. Mr. James Robertson has recorded briefly his impressions of *A Few Months in America*. Professor Baden Powell has contributed a sort of judicial summing up to certain arguments that have lately attracted much attention, on *The Unity of Worlds and the Philosophy of Creation*. Mr. Johnston has issued the seventh division of his invaluable *Physical Atlas*. The first volume has been completed of a careful translation of Tegoborski's *Commentaries on the Productive Forces of Russia*. Mr. Oxenford has translated and edited an *Illustrated Book of French Songs*. Mr. James Sheridan Knowles has published a treatise to prove that *The Gospel attributed to Matthew is the Record of the whole Original Apostleship*. Mr. John Young has published a treatise on *The Christ of History*. The Dean of Ely, Dr. Peacock, has written *The Life of Dr. Thomas Young*; and, in conjunction with Mr. John Leitch, has edited *Doctor Young's Miscellaneous Works*. Mrs. Loudon has described *My Own Garden* for the help and advice of those who have similar small possessions to attend to. In a little volume called *The Yester Deep Land-Culture*, Mr. Henry Stephens has given a detailed account of the method of cultivation which has been successfully practised for several years by Lord Tweeddale at Yester. Mr. Stainton has compiled for 1855 *The Entomologist's Annual*. Mrs. Everett Green has completed her *Lives of the Princesses of England*. Mr. Tracy Turnorelli has told the world *What I know of the late Emperor Nicholas and his Family*. The present Chan-

cellor of the Exchequer, Sir Cornwall Lewis, has published *An Enquiry into the Credibility of the Early Roman History*. From Mr. Samuel Ireneus Prime we have had *Travels in Europe and the East; America and the Americans* has been the subject of a volume by Mr. W. E. Baxter, M.P.; and two translations have appeared, the first by Mr. Russell Martineau, and the second by Mr. E. J. Morris, of a recent *Tour in Corsica*, by Ferdinand Gregorovius. Mr. Henry Curling has published *Recollections of the Mess Table and the Stage*. Captain Rafter has compiled a brief military history of *Our Indian Army*. Mr. Connolly has written, with some elaboration, a *History of the Corps of Royal Sappers and Miners*, illustrated with coloured engravings. Under the editorship of Dr. Lindley, the first part of a description of the *Ferns of Great Britain and Ireland* has been published, to accompany a series of illustrations "nature-printed" by Mr. Henry Bradbury. There has appeared an illustrated *Narrative of the Cruise of the Yacht Maria among the Feroe Islands*, in 1854. A brief description of the services of Sir Charles Richardson, under the title of *A Tar of the Last War*, has been published by the Rev. Mr. Armstrong. An interesting memoir of an original and eloquent preacher has been presented in a volume of *Sermons preached at Trinity Chapel, Brighton*, by the late Rev. F. W. Robertson. The religious houses in France have been described in *A Glance Behind the Grilles*. Mr. Leigh Hunt's *Stories in Verse* have been collected into one attractive little volume. The first number has been published of a *Quarterly Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics*. Mr. Robert Potts has compiled, under the title of *Liber Cantabrigiensis*, an account of the aids offered to poor students in the University of Cambridge, and of the exhibitions and scholarships connected with both universities. Lord Brougham has republished, with many important additions, his *Lives of Men of Letters of the Reign of George III.*; and from an Irish biographer, Mr. W. J. Fitzpatrick, we have received a volume on the *Life and Times of Lord Cloncurry*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 20th inst., £15,022,652.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz. £3 17 9	Silver bars, stan. per oz. 5 0 ⁸
Do., dust, " 3 16 0	Mexican dollars, " 4 10 ⁸

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0·12 disct.	New York	0·42 disct.
Hamburg	0·87 disct.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 4½ per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	93 <i>1</i>	88 <i>5</i>	89 <i>4</i>
Three per Cent. Reduced	91 <i>2</i>	87 <i>8</i>	87 <i>8</i>
New Three per Cents.	91 <i>2</i>	88 <i>5</i>	88 <i>5</i>
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4	3 <i>2</i>	3 <i>2</i>
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	21 <i>2</i>	21 <i>0</i>	
Exchequer Bills, June	10 <i>8</i> . p.	5 <i>s</i> . p.	10 <i>5</i> . p.
India Bonds	11 <i>8</i> . p.	11 <i>s</i> . p.	15 <i>p</i> .

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	99	98	98 <i>1</i>	112,619
11 <i>6</i> ·3	Blackwall	8	7 <i>2</i>	7 <i>2</i> ·4	13,869
100	Caledonian	64 <i>1</i>	58 <i>2</i>	58 <i>2</i>	132,405
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	58	54	54·6	53,670
20	Eastern Counties ..	11 <i>2</i>	11	11 <i>4</i>	241,427
100	Gt. Sn. & Wn. (Irel.)	92	91 <i>2</i>	92·4	66,612
100	Great Northern	88 <i>1</i>	88	89 <i>5</i>	220,123
100	Great Western	65 <i>3</i>	63 <i>1</i>	63 <i>1</i> ·2	260,871
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	70 <i>2</i>	75 <i>2</i>	75 <i>2</i> ·2	220,225
100	London & N. Westn.	100	97 <i>4</i>	97·9	685,600
100	London & S. Westn.	84	81	81·2	133,166
100	Midland	70	68 <i>4</i>	68 <i>4</i> ·2	289,675
100	South-East. & Dover	62 <i>2</i>	60	60 <i>1</i>	151,204

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.

Belgian 4½ per cent., 92·4	RAILWAYS.
Brazilian 5 per cent., 98·2	East Belgian Junct., 1·8
Chilian 6 per cent., 102·4	Great Luxembourg, 2 <i>5</i> ·7
Danish 5 per cent., 101·3	Northern of France, 3 <i>4</i>
Dutch 24 per cent., 62·4	Norwegian Trunk Perf., 8 <i>2</i>
Dutch 4 p. cent. cert., 94 <i>1</i>	Paris and Orleans, 4 <i>6</i>
Mexican 3 per cent., 20 <i>8</i>	Paris and Lyons, 3 <i>5</i>
Peruvian 3 per cent., 49·51	Paris and Rouen, 38·40
Portuguese 4 per cent., 41 <i>2</i>	West Flanders, 3 <i>4</i> ·4
Russian 5 per cent., 99	West of France, 21·2
Spanish 3 per cent., 30 <i>8</i>	Rouen and Havre, 21 <i>4</i> ·2
Sardinian 5 per cent., 86 <i>2</i>	

MINES.

Linares	7 <i>2</i>	Quartz Rock	4 <i>8</i>
Nouveau Monde	8 <i>8</i>	St. John Del Rey	31·0

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.

Australian	1·1 <i>2</i>	BANKS.	
Do., Freehold	3 <i>5</i>	Australasian	81 to 80
Colonial Gold	4 <i>5</i>	Eng. Scott. and Anst. 17 <i>4</i>	
Port Philip	4 <i>5</i>	Ind. Aust. and China	
South Australian....	4 <i>1</i>	Lond. Chart. of Aust. 20 <i>7</i>	

BANKS.

Australasian	81 to 80
Eng. Scott. and Anst. 17 <i>4</i>	
Ind. Aust. and China	
Lond. Chart. of Aust. 20 <i>7</i>	
South Australian....	40
Union of Australia ..	67 <i>2</i>

RAILWAYS.

East Indian	23 <i>1</i> ·3	STEAM COMPANIES.
Do., Extension 12 <i>1</i> ·3	Australasian Pacific .. 7 <i>1</i>	
Indian Peninsula ..	5 <i>2</i>	Australian Royal Mail 33 <i>5</i>
Madras	16 <i>2</i>	Eastern Steam Navig.

STEAM COMPANIES.

Australasian Pacific .. 7 <i>1</i>	
Australian Royal Mail 33 <i>5</i>	General Screw St. Ship 14 <i>1</i>
Eastern Steam Navig.	Pen. & Orient. St. Nav. 61·3

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural 28·30	North Brit. Australian 3 <i>1</i>	
Van Diemen's Land.. 12 <i>2</i> ·13	Peel River Land	25 <i>5</i> ·7
South Australian Land 36·7	Scottish Austr. Invest. 1 <i>2</i> ·4	

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Pens.
Mar. 24	66 6	20 9	25 0	39 1	40 0	38 9
— 31	68 7	30 5	25 6	38 10	40 5	38 7
Apr. 7	68 5	30 8	24 11	42 2	39 8	37 9
— 14	68 4	31 1	25 10	39 11	41 2	39 2

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

			l. s. d.	l. s. d.	l. s. d.
Malt, Pale,	per qr.	62 to 65			
Maltинг Barley ..		33 to 34			
Oats, best,		29 to 30			
Wheat, White,	"	73 to 78			
Flour—					
Town made, persk.		60 to 65			
Country household		49 to 53			
American, per hbarl.		36 to 40			
Indian Corn, per qr.		42 to 44			
CATTLE—	s. d. s. d.				
Beasts, per st.	3 to 24	2 to 4			
Calves ..	3	8 to 4			
Sheep ..	3	2 to 4			
Pigs ..	3	0 to 4			
Wool, per lb.—					
South Down..	1	0 to 1	1		
Kentish fleeces	1	0 to 1	1		
German Elect.	2	6 to 3	2		
Australian ..	0	10 to 2	2		
Cape.....	0	7 to 1	5		
Spanish	1	1 to 1	11		

METALS.

Copper, Cakes per ton, 12 <i>6</i> .		
Fron, Pigs 3 <i>1</i> to 5 <i>2</i> to 5 <i>6</i> .		
Rails, 6 <i>10</i> . 10 <i>8</i> .	Lead, English	
Pig, 22 <i>0</i> . 0 <i>8</i> . Steel	Swedish	
Cook, 18 <i>10</i> . 10 <i>8</i> .	Tin, English	
block, 11 <i>1</i> . 11 <i>0</i> .	block, 11 <i>1</i> .	
Iron, 2 <i>1</i> to 1 <i>1</i> .	Spelter, 2 <i>3</i> to 2 <i>5</i> .	
Per cent., 5 <i>5</i> to 5 <i>6</i> .	Quick-sil-	
per cent., 5 <i>6</i> to 5 <i>7</i> .	ver, per lb. 1 <i>0</i> d. to 1 <i>1</i> d.	

PROVISIONS.

BACON, per cwt.—Irish, 54 <i>s</i> .	to 68 <i>s</i> ; American, 48 <i>s</i> .	to 40 <i>s</i> .
BEER—Mid., to prime, p. 8 <i>lb</i> .	3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Irish India, per 1 <i>0</i> d.
per 8 <i>lb</i> , 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 8 <i>lb</i> , 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	17 <i>0</i> to 17 <i>6</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Mauritius, 33 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> . to 39 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Bengal, 37 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> . to 42 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Madras, 29 <i>s</i> . to 31 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Havannah, 34 <i>s</i> . to 41 <i>s</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	DC. REFINED—Grocery lumps, 46 <i>s</i> . to 51 <i>s</i> ; Bastards, 27 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	to 27 <i>s</i> .; Crushed, 30 <i>s</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Tea, per lb. (duty 1 <i>s</i> . 9 <i>d</i>)—Congou, 8 <i>5d</i> . to 1 <i>8</i> . 3 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Souchong, 10 <i>d</i> . to 2 <i>8</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Hyson, 1 <i>s</i> . 5 <i>d</i> . to 2 <i>6</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .
per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	per 1 <i>0</i> d., 3 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . to 5 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> .	Assam, 1 <i>s</i> . 6 <i>d</i> . to 4 <i>d</i> .

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies	British America	United States	Other places	Total.
To February 28	12,556	21	7,982	242	20,801
March	5,209	281	10,537	261	16,378
Total	17,855	302	18,519	503	37,179

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£35 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £22	£2 10 <i>0</i> £3 5
Sydney ..	40 — 65	22 — 35	18 — 25	2 5 — 2 10
Adelaide ..	36 — 62	22 — 32	15 — 24	2 10 — 2 15
Hobart Tn.	36 — 65	22 — 35	15 — 25	2 5 — 2 15

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 27TH APRIL TO THE 28TH MAY.

[PRICE 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

ON Friday, April 27, the Earl of ALBEMARLE presented a petition and moved for returns respecting the *Trade in Russian Goods Carried on through Prussia*, and inquired the intentions of the government on the subject of the blockade of the enemy's ports. Expressing his conviction that a commercial attack upon Russia, accomplished by means of a rigorous blockade, would prove more effectual than all the efforts of our armies, he denounced the negligence which had been apparent last year in this respect, and exhorted the ministry to more stringent operations in the ensuing campaign. Means should also be taken to stop the land transit trade carried on so largely through the Prussian territory, whose existence rendered the maritime blockade altogether abortive.—Lord STANLEY of Alderley repeated the explanations already more than once given to account for the lenity of last year's blockade. In the present year he stated that the Black Sea ports belonging to Russia were already blockaded, as those in the Baltic would be so soon as the navigation was open. With respect to the general commerce of Russia, he read returns showing that she had nearly lost half her export trade, and asserted that she had been seriously crippled in every branch of her resources.

On Monday, April 30, in reply to Lord Vivian, respecting *Cavalry Reinforcements to the Crimea*, Lord HARDINGE said he had had a consultation with the Duke of Cambridge, who agreed with him that, instead of sending out separate squadrons of each of the regiments serving, it would be better to send out the two regiments, the 1st Dragoon Guards and the 6th Dragoons. The force of cavalry in the East at present consisted of 1,300 effective men, and they would be reinforced by about 750 troops, and also by the two regiments coming from India, one of which had already arrived—the amount of which would be about 1000 men rank and file. Thus there would be in the Crimea upwards of 3000 effective cavalry, exclusive of the two regiments he had referred to, if they would be required, and they would be required without doubt. The number of recruits now ready was at least 1000 men, and we had at least 1,500 horses between five and six years old.

On Thursday, May 3, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called attention to the notification in the *Gazette*, that it was her Majesty's pleasure to give the *Officers of the Indian Army* the same rank and precedence as the officers of her Majesty's army in every other part of the world. Although this order, if it referred to the military position of the officers generally, must be a matter of great gratification to the Indian army, he was afraid on the other hand it would tend to disappoint the hopes of those officers, as they entertained a reasonable expectation that her Majesty's ministers would have gone further, by giving them the same brevet rank as the officers of her Majesty's army. He then alluded to the memorandum, dated the 30th April, relating to the enlistment for the army, and asked whether her Majesty's government had any intention of giving the same amount of bounty as had been offered under a former arrangement.—Lord PANMURE said that the memorandum went no further in its spirit or letter than to confer upon the officers of the Indian army a social position which, though hitherto generally recognised, was involved in some doubt and uncertainty. He

would, however, take that opportunity of saying it was his opinion that the services and distinctions of the Indian army had been sometimes very unfairly put forward in such a way as to throw into the shade the services of her Majesty's army. He did not think that there ought to be any distinction made between the two services in respect to officers of equal merit. In respect to the question as to the bounty to be given to those enlisting under the order of the 30th April, it was not the intention at present of the government to increase that bounty. As long as the wants of the army were being supplied, he thought it his duty to economise the public money as much as possible. If, however, it were deemed necessary to offer a greater bounty, as a further inducement for the enlistment of recruits, the government would, of course, be prepared to consider the propriety of proposing such increase.

The Earl of CLARENDON made a statement respecting the *Late Negotiations at Vienna*. He mentioned, as a proof of the spirit in which they were carried on, and the desire of the governments of France and England to do nothing that should offend either the honour or dignity of Russia, that it was a fact that the plenipotentiaries of Russia had been invited themselves to take the initiative, and to propose the measures which they thought would best carry out the principle of the third basis of negotiation, to which they had already given their assent. The Russian plenipotentiaries acknowledged the spirit which had induced this course; but they announced that they were left without instructions, and that it was necessary for them to apply to St. Petersburg for instructions. In the meantime the allied powers declined to alter the order, in which the four points were originally placed, and refused to discuss the fourth point, upon which it was possible some concessions would be made, until the third point was disposed of. When the conference was again called together to receive the answer which had arrived from St. Petersburg, the Russian plenipotentiaries announced that they had no proposal whatever to make, and the allied plenipotentiaries then submitted to them a scheme which he thought Russia, without any hurt to her dignity, but with very much addition to her honour as a first-rate power, might have accepted, if she had been inclined to prove to the world that her policy was as pacific as she had always affirmed it to be. The Russian plenipotentiaries, however, rejected these propositions, and the conferences were therefore suspended. Proposals had since been made by the Russian government, but not of a character to promote or accomplish the objects contemplated by the third basis of negotiations. Lord Clarendon concluded by saying: "You will find in the protocols to be laid upon the table, not simply the record of a conclusion which has been arrived at, but a report of the discussions which took place, and of the feelings that were expressed by the representatives of each power. I think you may consider the statement I have made to be either satisfactory or conclusive—conclusive I mean as to what has actually taken place—unless I am able to inform you of the course which Austria intends to take hereafter; and it is on this particular point I hope that that prudence may be observed, which, I think, the circumstances of the case really demand. My reason for saying this is that at the conclusion of the conferences, or when they

were suspended, Count Buol expressly stated that he considered that the means for obtaining a peace were not wholly exhausted, and that it would be the special duty of Austria to endeavour to discover some mode of attaining that end consistently with the engagements into which she had entered with the other powers."—Lord DERBY said, I hear almost with regret that fresh negotiations and discussions are still in progress; because I feel they can have no other object than that of wasting time, and idly amusing the plenipotentiaries. I think the proposals made by the plenipotentiaries of the allied powers have gone beyond those which ought to have been made under the circumstances. I am afraid that concessions have been made to Russia which, even if they had been accepted, would have rendered useless, and worse than useless, the great expenditure of blood and treasure which has been involved in the last year's warfare.

On Friday, May 4, the motion for the third reading of the *Loan Bill* gave rise to some prolonged comments, to which Lord MONTEAGLE, Earl GREY, and other peers contributed, respecting the principles on which money could most economically be borrowed by the state.—The bill was ultimately read a third time and passed.

On Monday, May 7, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH gave notice that he would, on Monday following, move the following resolution on the *Conduct of the War*:—"That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, to assure her Majesty of our continued support in the prosecution of the just and necessary war in which her Majesty is engaged: to declare the sincere gratification with which we have regarded the perfect community of counsels between her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, and have seen friendliness established and increasing between the French people and our own,—events full of hope for the future to other nations as well as to ourselves: to express our admiration of the many deeds of valour by which the allied forces in the East have illustrated their brotherhood in arms, and our satisfaction that the brave army of Piedmont is now called to participate in their actions and in their fame: to declare our persuasion that, amid all their disappointments, the people of this country still retain the generous feelings which led them at the commencement of the war willingly to place all the means required from them at her Majesty's disposal; that they will still protest the weak against the aggression of the strong, and that they are not prepared to consent that Russia shall, by her increasing preponderance, so control the Turkish government as practically to hold Constantinople within her grasp: to acquaint her Majesty that, while we admit and lament the privations to which war necessarily subjects all classes of the people, we yet venture to assure her Majesty that they would in so just a cause bear those privations without complaint, if they could feel that the war had been well-conducted, that the troops had not been exposed to any hardships which could have been avoided by forethought, and that everything had been done to enable them to achieve decisive success: humbly to represent to her Majesty, that her people, suffering privations on account of this war, have as yet had no such consolation; that on the contrary, we cannot withhold from her Majesty the avowal of our conviction that the conduct of the war has occasioned general dissatisfaction, and given rise to just complaints, and that we must humbly lay before her Majesty our deliberate opinion that it is only through the selection of men for public employment without regard to anything but the public service, that the country can hope to prosecute the war successfully, and to attain its only legitimate object—a secure and honourable peace."

Lord PANMURE then gave notice that he would, on Friday week, bring forward a plan for the *Consolidation of the Civil Departments of the Army*.

On Tuesday, May 8, the Earl of CLarendon laid upon the table the *Papers Relating to the Vienna Conferences*.

On Thursday, May 10, Earl GREY gave notice of his intention, on Monday week, to move that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, to thank her Majesty for having ordered the protocols and other papers connected with the recent *Conferences at Vienna*

to be laid before their lordships, and to inform her Majesty that they deeply deplore the failure of the attempt by these negotiations to bring the war to a happy conclusion; and to express their lordships' opinion that the proposals made on the part of Russia were of such a nature as might have been acceded to by the other powers concerned, as tending to lead to the attainment of the object for which arms were originally taken up.

On Monday, May 14, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH brought forward his resolutions respecting the *State of the Country and the Conduct of the War*. He said the war had lasted a year, which was longer, he believed, than it was expected to last by the ministry who made it. The whole military and naval strength of the country had been arrayed for its prosecution, and we had no reason to complain either of our soldiers or our seamen. There had been the most cordial union between those nations allied against Russia; yet our military operations had been attended with unparalleled sufferings, had been surrounded by many disasters, and crowned with no substantial success. But very recently another event had happened which gave even a graver character to the war. The negotiations at Vienna had failed, and in such a manner, through the production of propositions on the part of Russia which were perfectly inadmissible, as to afford us the apprehension of a protracted war. Since Lord Palmerston had taken the lead of the government, singular torpor had seemed to pervade both branches of the legislature, a torpor which, if that noble lord could have realised his wish to stifle the Sebastopol Committee of Inquiry, would have extended itself from parliament to the nation at large. While parliament had been in a state of torpor the public had been thinking, and they had arrived at this conclusion, that it was necessary, in the selection of individuals for public employment, to regard their fitness for office and not to act by favour. He was no new convert to this principle, but had always acted on it when in power, and could speak both as to its advantages and its dangers. Confessing his apprehensions at the swell of popular impulses without the walls of parliament, he invited their lordships to neutralise, by leading and guiding, the general movement of the public, and to give a constitutional expression to the general opinion that the public servants should be selected with a single eye to their capacity for performing public services. Descending to particulars, as exemplifying the negligences and ignorances of the ministry, the noble earl remarked that the enlistment of 16,000 militia had been lost by a parsimonious attempt save 50,000/- or 60,000/-; that no means of moving the troops were provided until a few weeks ago; that the new war ministry was organised upon a most insufficient scale; that the active strength of the allied armies was paralysed by the division of command; and the services of the Baltic fleet rendered nugatory by the non-supply of soldiers and gun-boats; that the Asiatic field for operations against Russia had been neglected; and that an ill-judged and ill-timed expedition was undertaken in the Crimea, which he characterised as a blunder alike in diplomacy and in war. The present position of the besieging army placed it in itself in beleaguerement between the Russian entrenchments and the sea, unable to move in the field, hopeless of success against Sebastopol. For the continual disasters and eventual failure he considered the home government primarily accountable, and described the various particulars in which they had proved remiss and incapable. The fault, he argued, did not lie so much with the system of government as with the men; and he observed that the entanglement of a bad system formed the recognised excuse of convicted mediocrity. For his own part, he supported administrative reform for the same reason that he had opposed the old Reform Bill, because he wished to see the ablest men brought into public positions. Their lordships themselves, he remarked, enjoyed the hereditary rank which their ancestors had won not by favour but by fitness, and he called upon them, at a great crisis, to acknowledge and advocate the great principle to which they owed their own existence, and to place themselves in the vanguard of public opinion. The noble earl concluded by moving his resolutions.

They declared that, notwithstanding every disappointment, the people of this country still retain the generous feelings which led them, at the commencement of the war, willingly to place all the means required from them at her Majesty's disposal; that they will still protect the weak against the aggression of the strong; and that they are not prepared to consent that Russia shall, by her increasing preponderance, so control the Turkish government as practically to hold Constantinople within her grasp. The resolutions finally represented that the people, suffering privations on account of the war, had as yet had no consolation; and that their lordships were of opinion that it would only be through the selection of men for public employment, without regard to anything but the public service, that the country could hope to prosecute the war successfully, and to attain its only legitimate object—a secure and honourable peace.—Lord PANMURE said that it would be impossible for him, without exposing himself to misrepresentation, to object to a great part of the noble earl's assertions; but in other parts of the noble earl's address her Majesty's government recognised a censure to which they could not submit, and it would be his duty, therefore, to move that this question be not put. He should not move to place a direct negative upon it, but he should so shape his motion as to submit to their lordships that the government were not open to this censure. In justification of the ministerial conduct, Lord Panmure urged the forty years' peace, the consequent insufficiency of our armaments, and the retrenchments which had reduced the army to a mere series of detached and isolated regiments. Declaring that the government had laboured indefatigably and successfully to supply all requirements, he adverted in detail to the successive operations of last year's campaign, and the condition of the troops in the field and the camp, arguing that in all cases the best available course had been followed, and whatever evils arose were remedied at the earliest possible moment. The public interest forbade him from citing documents in his possession, but he ventured to assure the house that since February last the British troops had been gradually improving in health, strength, and efficiency, and were now unmatched in every quality which rendered an army fit for action, and formidable against the enemy. On the general allegation that inefficient functionaries were advanced to high office, he challenged attack, remarking that no single instance had been cited to substantiate the charge. He took for granted that the noble earl referred to civil appointments and not to the army or navy. It was, then, his duty to point out some instances, but this he had not done. The portion of the noble earl's resolutions which seemed to cast a censure upon government was well worthy their lordships' serious consideration. Only three months had elapsed since the country passed through a prolonged ministerial crisis; and true patriotism, he urged, now pointed to a course which should allay public anxiety, strengthen the bands of the government, and give to the general and the army increased confidence in their constitutional directors.—The Earls of HARDWICK and WINCHELSEA supported the resolutions, which were opposed by the Earl of ELGIN.—The Earl of DERBY supported the resolutions. He did not concur in all that was said at the London meeting. He entered into a lengthened explanation of the causes which limited the choice of servants of the crown to persons of a particular class, and expressed his opinion that whenever a young man of ability entered parliament, there was no minister, whether whig or tory, who would not gladly accept his services. He stated this in order to correct the exaggerated feeling which was abroad on this subject. It was said great improvements had been made within the last three months, but it ought not to be forgotten that, with the exception of the war minister, the government was the same as it had been when all the evils occurred. In conclusion, he stated that, while he should regret if the success of this resolution should remove the present ministers, still he could not admit that the state of the country was such as to deter him from accepting office if it were offered him now, as he had three months ago.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE defended the conduct of government.—The Marquises of CLANRICARDE and

LONDONDERRY opposed the motion.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said it was plain this resolution was mainly directed against Lord Palmerston. He reminded the house that in every war this country had been engaged in since the revolution the first year was unsuccessful, and to a degree infinitely greater than the present war had been. He stated, as a curious fact, that in the first expedition of Marshal Schomburgh, which was planned by King William, there were precisely the same complaints, even to the want of clothing and hutting, which were now urged in respect to the Crimean army. He asserted that it was a popular delusion to suppose that there was any reserve of talent in this country which was prevented by artificial means from finding its way into the government, and he contended that the government had done its best to recruit its ranks from every possible quarter. With regard to the conduct of the war, he asserted that the Russians had suffered tenfold what the allies had done, and he cited a return which, he assured the house, was obtained from the highest authority, stating that, previous to the death of the Emperor Nicholas, 177,000 men had died, and since then 70,000 more had perished—making a loss to the enemy of 247,000 men. He added that there was no step which we had taken through the whole war which was not either suggested or approved by our invaluable ally.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH replied; after which their lordships divided. Contents, 71; non-contents, 181: majority against the motion, 110.

On Tuesday, May 15, the Earl of ALBEMARLE moved a resolution that, in order to bring the war to a speedy termination, it was necessary to *Restrict the Trade with Russia* by more efficient measures than any which have hitherto been adopted or announced by her Majesty's government. He more particularly complained of the free transit of goods through Prussia.—Lord STANLEY of Alderley replied that government felt the importance of carrying on the blockade with all the energy and strictness possible. With respect to that portion of the trade of Russia which oozed through Prussia, he saw no means — on account of the difficulty of distinguishing that which was Russian produce from that which was Prussian—the effect of which would not be to inflict the maximum of injury to ourselves for the minimum of injury inflicted on Russia. For these reasons he did not think it necessary to resort to any other measures than those which had already been taken.—Lord COLchester contended for the right of search, which Earl Granville condemned as likely to offend the European powers without any practical benefit to ourselves.—Earl GREY denounced the principle of drawing tighter the restrictions on trade and the commerce of the world—in order to injure an enemy—as dangerous and impolitic.—The Earl of DERBY could not refuse his vote to a proposition which tended to carry on the war with vigour and efficiency.—The house then divided, when there appeared—Contents (for the resolution), 31; non-contents (against it), 47: majority against it 16.

On Friday, May 18, Lord PANMURE made a statement of the proposed *Reforms in our Military Administration*. It was proposed, in the first place, to abolish the office of Master-General of the Board of Ordnance altogether. The ordnance consists of two departments, one occupied with matters which are purely military, the other with matters of a civil character. The former includes the command of the Royal Artillery and the Royal Engineers, both of which it is proposed to vest in the Commander-in-Chief of the army. The civil department will be vested in the Secretary of State for the War Department, who will have under him a chief civil officer with a seat in the House of Commons, in order that he may be there responsible for all that is done in the civil administration of the army. He proposed in the new arrangement to place a naval officer in connection with the Director General of Artillery, who would be charged with superintending improvements in the naval gunnery of the country. He further intended to establish a department which should have the superintendence of the whole public contracts made for the army or ordnance, and he proposed to place at the head of it a commercial gentleman, who had the confidence of the commercial world. A superintendent of clothing

would be appointed, which would do away with the board of general officers. The noble lord then pointed out that the various heads of departments should also be in constant communication with the Secretary of War, in order that they might intimately know each other's opinions upon all matters coming under their jurisdiction.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH and Earl GREY threw out some suggestions, but declined to enter into detailed criticism until a future occasion.

On Thursday, May 24th, the second reading of the *Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill* was moved by Viscount CANNING, and agreed to after some remarks from Lord Monteagle in opposition to the measure.

On Friday, May 25th, Earl GREY brought forward his resolutions as to the *Policy of Government respecting the War*. He enlarged upon the waste of life which had already taken place, and the miseries attendant upon war. An opportunity which offered a fair chance of peace had, he believed, been thrown away. Granting that the country was justified in commencing hostilities, he remarked at much length upon the impolicy of rejecting an honorable basis for negotiation. He recapitulated the objects and principles for whose enforcement we had engaged in war, and contended that these were not only realised, but much exceeded, in the concessions already made by Russia. Examining the propositions presented on either side at the Vienna conferences, he expressed his preference for the proposals made by Russia, remarking that to demand the limitation of her fleet in the Black Sea was insulting to an independent power, and in reply to the assertion that Russia's faith could not be relied upon, observed that the objection would be equally applicable, and the objection of the treaty equally uncertain, whatever were the terms upon which it was concluded. He inquired what were the expectations that could induce the country to protract the war, urging that all practical objects were now secured, and nothing remained but some vague and uncertain advantages, contended for under the impulse of an unjustifiable animosity against Russia. Tracing the rise and progress of the conflict from the beginning, he argued, that the English government and the ambassador at Constantinople might have averted the outbreak of war, or stopped hostilities at various opportunities, bringing against them, for their omissions in this respect, a heavy charge of negligence, partiality, and recklessness.

The Earl of CLARENDON, who spoke of Lord Grey as the advocate of Russia, observed that the noble earl omitted to take into account the uniform spirit of aggression which the Czar had always manifested against Turkey. The late Emperor Nicholas had asserted that the Sultan was past hope, and the mission of Prince Mentschikoff was designed to give him the *coup de grace*. Since the outbreak of the war we had become better acquainted with the designs of Russia, and with her means for executing them, and had discovered that Europe was standing over a mine without knowing it. Russia had for years been permitted to interfere and to encroach, through the culpable negligence of the European powers, and but for the timely revelation of her objects, might, in a few years more, have succeeded in realising her plans. Finding every reason to conclude that these designs were still entertained and the power of Russia still unbroken, Lord Clarendon proceeded to enforce the necessity of finding some effectual means to repress the advances and curb the ambition of a power which continually threatened the independence of its neighbours. He examined point by point, the propositions which had been suggested for this purpose, and while declaring that nothing but the intractable spirit of aggression on the part of Russia had stood in the way of peace, contended that England was bound for the sake alike of honour and security to prosecute the war until such terms were offered calculated to carry out the principle which he had indicated, and guarantee the safety of Europe. Lord MALMESBURY opposed the motion and supported the policy of government. The Duke of NEWCASTLE advised Earl Grey not to divide the House. After some observations from the Earl of Derby, Earl Grey withdrew his resolutions.

move resolutions declaring that the *State of the Country* was such as to cause serious alarm; that the sacrifice of efficiency to family and party interests is the source of great misfortune and disgrace to the country; and that the house will support any ministry which can enforce the efficient conduct of the public service and the vigorous prosecution of the war.

A discussion of some length arose respecting certain *Statements made by Mr. Layard in his late Speech at Liverpool*, and repeated in a subsequent letter to the *Times*.—Mr. EWART complained of the insinuation that his relative, Major Ewart, owed his promotion to parliamentary influences.—Mr. H. BARING denounced and denied certain allegations respecting the officers of the Coldstream Guards.—General PEEL justified the promotion, without purchase, of Colonel Hardinge, the son of the Commander-in-Chief, declaring that the step was given in strict accordance with military precedent, and fell to the lot of the officer in question by the fortune of service.—Mr. F. PEEL denied that any undue influence had been exercised with regard to promotions in the army; and, after recapitulating a variety of facts and instances, called on Mr. Layard to retract the statement he had hazarded.—Mr. LAYARD explained that he had designed to offer no disparagement either to Major Ewart or Colonel Hardinge; but, on the general question, reiterated and adhered to his condemnation of the system of favouritism on which promotion had been granted to officers in the army.—The statements of Mr. Layard were further impugned by Mr. Hardinge, Mr. Byng, Colonel Lindsay, Colonel North, and Colonel Knox.—Lord PALMERSTON regretted that any member of that house should have placed himself in the position occupied by Mr. Layard. Remarking that all his allegations had been utterly disproved, and his charges shown to be false and calumnious, the noble lord expressed his surprise that he had not manfully retracted his assertions. After pronouncing a high eulogium on the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Palmerston adverted to the accusation brought against the British army, of being essentially aristocratic, contending that it was equally honourable to the aristocracy and to the army, that men of the highest class should show themselves foremost in braving danger for the defence of the country.

The second reading of the *Education (Scotland) Bill* was opposed by Mr. BLACKBURN, who moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.—A long debate ensued, at the close of which a division took place, when there appeared—for the second reading, 210; for the amendment, 171; majority for the second reading, 39.

On Monday, April 30, Lord JOHN RUSSELL took his *Seat for the City*, on his re-election consequent on accepting the office of colonial secretary.

Mr. DISRAELI requested to know from Lord John Russell whether he meant to give any information respecting the late *Diplomatic Proceedings at Vienna*.—Lord PALMERSTON wished, before Lord John Russell answered the question, to correct a statement he had formerly made to the house. He stated that the Russians, in refusing the allied propositions, made no counter offer. He had since learned they did make a proposal; but it was not of a nature to satisfy any one of the allied plenipotentiaries.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL said, in answer to the question, that he understood it was the intention of the government very shortly to lay the protocols of the conference upon the table. He then stated the substance of the various conferences as they had occurred, as follows: The first meeting of the conference was on the 15th of March. The negotiations with respect to the first two of the four points lasted until the 26th of March. On that day the third point came under consideration. It was suggested by the plenipotentiaries of Austria that the plenipotentiaries of Russia should themselves make a proposal calculated to satisfy the exigencies of the case. The plenipotentiaries of Russia replied that they had no instructions to do so; but they asked for time to refer to their government. The consequence was that the conference was then adjourned, and that no meeting for the transaction of business took place until the answer was received from St. Petersburg. On the 17th of April another conference was held, when the plenipotentiaries of Russia informed

the conference that they had received instructions from their government not to take the initiative of any propositions; but that they were ready to hear and discuss any proposal which might be submitted to the conference. The representatives of the allied powers then requested forty-eight hours to consider the form in which they should make their proposal, and on the 19th of April the plenipotentiaries of France and of Great Britain, supported by the plenipotentiaries of Austria, laid their proposition before the conference. The Russian plenipotentiaries, on their side, asked for forty-eight hours in order to prepare their answer to this proposition. Accordingly, on the 21st, they gave their answer, totally rejecting the propositions which had been made to the conference. They stated, however, that they had propositions to make on the part of their government which they conceived would be in accordance with the demand that Turkey should be united more closely with the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe, and that some restriction should be placed upon the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. The plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, and Great Britain, found those proposals of Russia entirely unacceptable, and refused to consider them in detail. The plenipotentiary of Austria then said, that although these propositions had been rejected, he trusted that all the means of reconciling the belligerent parties by peace were not yet exhausted. To this the plenipotentiaries of France and of Great Britain replied that their instructions were exhausted, and that they had no powers to consider any further propositions. He then said he thought it his duty to repair to his own government, and lay before them the whole state of the case. The French Minister of Foreign Affairs followed him a few days afterwards, and was now, he believed, in Paris.—In answer to repeated questions from Mr. Disraeli, Lord PALMERSTON said that the protocols to be produced would state very clearly what the nature of the four points were; that these protocols would be laid upon the table as soon as possible; and that he could not promise to accompany them with the despatches connected with the Austrian treaty.—In answer to Mr. Bass, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that the Turkish minister was, all through the negotiations, of the same mind with the other allies.—In answer to Mr. Duncome, Lord PALMERSTON said that Russia had made another proposition at Vienna since the departure of Lord John Russell; but it had been rejected by the allies.

On the motion for considering the amendments of the *Loan Bill*, Sir FITZROY KELLY moved the omission of clause 22, providing for the annual payment of 1,000,000*l.*, after the conclusion of the war, until 16,000,000*l.* Consols be repaid. — After a long discussion, the amendment was negatived by 210 against 111.

In committee on the *Income-tax Bill*, ministers consented to an amendment on clause 1, moved by Mr. HILDYARD, fixing the additional rate and duty on incomes under 150*l.* per annum and above 100*l.* at 1*d.* instead of 2*d.*, as provided in the bill; because 2*d.* additional upon incomes below 150*l.* is a higher rate of increase than 2*d.* upon incomes above 150*l.*

The house went into committee on the *Newspaper Stamp Bill*.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced the conclusion he had come to with respect to the registration clauses. After giving the matter the best consideration he could, he proposed to allow the existing law on that subject to remain as it was, and to compel all newspapers to comply with the existing regulations, both as regarded registration and security against libel. By a new clause, the Chancellor limited the privilege of retransmission by the post to a period of fifteen days.—The copyright clauses, brought forward by the government, gave rise to a lengthened discussion, in which Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Milner Gibson, Lord Lovaine, Lord Stanley, and others, objected to all attempts at copyright as impracticable, while the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Phinn supported at least the principle of copyright. In the end the government withdrew the clause, leaving newspaper proprietors to the remedy of the existing law.—Mr. MONCKTON MILNES then brought forward a clause to allow the privilege of transmission and retransmission through

the post to all newspapers embossed with the penny stamp, and of which the printed superficies did not exceed 3,500 inches. The clause was supported by Mr. Lowe, Mr. Drummond, and others, and was opposed by Lord Stanley, Mr. Milner Gibson, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer; and, on a division, the clause was rejected by a majority of 260 to 86. The other clauses went through committee, and the report was ordered to be received next day.

On Tuesday, May 1, Mr. SPOONER moved that the house should resolve itself into committee, for the purpose of considering the *Acts for the Endowment of the College of Maynooth*, with a view to the withdrawal of all national grants out of the consolidated fund for the support of that establishment.—A debate ensued, which was adjourned to the 6th of June.

On Wednesday, May 2, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON moved the second reading of the *Education Bill*. Briefly describing and defending the machinery of the bill, he urged that in principle it was designed to combine the most extended religious education with the widest tolerance of sectarian distinctions. The funds that would be required to carry out his system, the right hon. baronet remarked, were to be provided for by grants of public money, administered under the supervision of local boards; but with some additional machinery, rendering them accountable to the House of Commons. All details, he submitted, might be left for arrangement in committee; and he invited the house to affirm the principle of this measure by consenting to pass it through the stage of second reading.—Mr. HENLEY moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. His objections, which the hon. member urged at great length, were founded chiefly upon the apprehension that the bill would diminish the certainty that all education receiving public support should include the religious element, and that it might tend to foster and extend the range of the voluntary principle as regarded our educational institutions.—The debate was adjourned.

On Thursday, May 3, Lord GROSVENOR moved the second reading of the bill for suppressing *Sunday Trading in the Metropolis*.—Mr. WILKINSON doubted whether the subject were fit for legislation, but if it were deemed necessary to legislate upon it, he considered that the government should undertake that duty.—Lord EBRINGTON expressed his cordial approbation of the bill, as did the Marquis of BLANDFORD.—Sir G. GREY, on behalf of the government, consented to allow the bill to be read a second time, leaving for the committee any further discussion of its details.—Mr. T. DUNCOMBE believed that the working classes were almost universally anxious to secure the proper observance of Sunday, but pointed out various difficulties connected with the arrangements of work, the payment of wages, and the necessities of their domestic condition, which compelled them to make many purchases on the morning of that day. He recommended the promoters of the bill to refer it to a select committee, and contended that some general measure should be prepared upon the subject, whose operation should not be limited to the metropolis.—Mr. M. CHAMBERS viewed the measure as a great boon to the operative and artisan classes of the metropolis.—Mr. W. J. FOX observed that the bill presented no coherent principle, as it left untouched a great mass of work and duties which now fell upon many classes of the community, especially upon domestic servants. The measure, to be consistent, should be made universal in its application.—Lord R. GROSVENOR said his reason for limiting its operation to the metropolis was because the evil of Sunday trading existed there to the greatest extent.—The bill was then read a second time.—Mr. DUNCOMBE moved that the measure should be sent before a select committee.—The motion was seconded by Mr. WILKINSON; but, after a few words from Sir G. GREY, was withdrawn, and the committee on the bill fixed for the 13th of June.

Mr. WHITESIDE brought forward for second reading a series of six bills designed to improve and amend the practice and course of procedure in the *Irish Court of Chancery*.—Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD contended that Mr. Whiteside had based his measures on erroneous information, and framed them on principles which rendered

them wholly ineffectual for the accomplishment of his avowed object. He moved that the bills be read a second time that day six months.—Mr. CAIRNS suggested that without summarily rejecting the bills, they should be held over until the promised report of the commissioners was laid before parliament.—Mr. MALINS defended the bills.—Mr. KEOGH moved the adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to, for a month.

On Friday, May 4, Mr. DISRAEELI complained that an unusually long period was allowed to elapse before the state papers relating to the *Vienna Conferences* were laid before parliament. Referring to former precedents, he observed that the papers relating to Lord Malmesbury's mission in 1796 were laid on the table even before the return of the envoy. Similar punctuality might, he urged, have been observed in the present instance, if government had shown due diligence, or had not been reluctant to afford information on a topic which absorbed public interest at the present moment.—Lord PALMERSTON submitted that the precedent of 1796 related to a transaction in which the attainment of peace had long been known to be hopeless. Declaring that the government in their treatment of this affair had been actuated solely by motives of public duty, he intimated that the delay in communicating the papers in question to the legislature had arisen from a wish not to throw further difficulties in the way of negotiations which were not yet wholly terminated.

The debate on the second reading of the *Tenant's Compensation* (Ireland) Bill was resumed and concluded. The discussion chiefly dealt with the retrospective compensation-clause, to which there was some opposition. It was supported by Mr. HORSMAN and Lord PALMERSTON, and the second reading was carried by 163 to 50.

On Monday, May 7, Mr. DISRAEELI returned to the question of the *Vienna Protocols*, and asked the government if they were yet ready?—Sir G. GREY said he knew the foreign secretary was busy preparing the protocols for publication, and they would be laid before the house on a very early day.—Mr. DISRAEELI said he would to-morrow ask the government to fix the day when they should be laid before the house; and if that day was not soon, he would ask the house to express an opinion on the subject.—Later in the evening Lord PALMERSTON stated that the protocols would be laid before the house on the following day. The reason why they had not yet been presented was, he said, on account of the temporary illness of "the person whose duty it was to prepare the translations of the protocols."

On the third reading of the *Newspaper Stamp Duty Bill*, Mr. HADFIELD complained of the limitation of fifteen days, beyond which stamped newspapers could not pass through the post.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER thought fifteen days was sufficiently wide; though, if the house wished it, he would not object to extend the period to thirty days. He might add, that as soon as this law passed, it was the intention of the government to establish a cheap postage for printed matter generally.—Mr. BRIGGS objected to the retransmission of newspapers altogether; and he hoped, further, that the government would soon consider the question of the newspaper stamp with a view to its abolition, as it was a great hardship on those papermakers who lived at a distance from the places where papers were stamped.—Mr. CALEY strongly advocated the retransmission of newspapers, as tending to a great diffusion of knowledge. He had opposed the second reading because, though he believed it would diffuse a great blessing through the country, still he could not consent to purchase that blessing at the expense of existing interests. He was in favour of a copyright in news, and in favour of transmitting the largest-sized newspapers through the post, and he now gave notice that if newspapers of six ounces weight were not allowed to go through the post for a penny, he would divide the house against the third reading.—Mr. DUFFY reminded the house that, in the case of monthly mails to the colonies, thirteen daily newspapers would be excluded from the colonies altogether. He was, therefore, against the limitation altogether—at least a month ought to be allowed for the retransmission.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

had no objection to make the fortnight limitation apply exclusively to the united kingdom.—Mr. VANSITTART moved that the bill should be read a third time that day six months. He could not find that anybody thoroughly liked this bill except Mr. M. Gibson, and nobody in the country wished for it, while the revenue to be lost was much more than the country could afford.—Mr. LANOCHEERE said he had voted against the second reading of the bill purely on financial grounds, and now that the budget had been laid before them he would certainly vote for the third reading. He was favourable to the privilege of retransmitting newspapers as a measure likely to encourage the best and ablest papers.—Mr. WHITESIDE had intended to move a clause allowing a newspaper of six ounces in weight to go through the post for a penny. He wanted to know where it had been proved that the post-office would have more difficulty in carrying six ounces than four. He believed the great object of the present limitation to four ounces was to injure a particular journal. As he saw the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not agree to the amendment he proposed, he had no alternative but to oppose the bill.—Lord PALMERSTON here stated that the Speaker was labouring under indisposition, and suggested that the bill should at once be read a third time—that the amendments to be discussed on the question that the bill do pass be adjourned to a future day—and that the house should now go into committee on the spirit duties bill.—Mr. DISRAEELI said there could be but one feeling of sympathy for the speaker, but he thought it would be better that the debate should be adjourned.—Lord Palmerston assented to this, and the debate was adjourned till Friday.

On Wednesday, May 9, Mr. HEADLAM moved the second reading of the *Illegal Marriages* (Scotland) Bill. The measure, he contended, would define and enforce the law on a point where its existing uncertainties and inefficiency gave scope for very serious consequences.—Mr. ELLIOTT moved as an amendment that the second reading should be deferred for six months.—Lord DUNCAN opposed the bill, which he believed would throw the whole marriage law in Scotland into confusion.—The house divided—for the second reading, 40; for the amendment, 113. The bill was consequently rejected.

The debate on the second reading of the *Marriage Law Amendment Bill* was then resumed by Sir W. HEATHCOTE, who believed that the scriptural authority against marriage within the contemplated degrees of affinity was undoubted, and argued if any doubt existed, it should be resolved in favour of the existing law.—Mr. PHINN supported the bill, urging, among other arguments, that marriage had ceased to be considered a question appertaining only to the ecclesiastical law.—Mr. R. PALMER apprehended that the measure would sap the foundations of morality in this country. It contravened, moreover, as he contended, the decision of the learned divines by whom the thirty-nine articles of the English church were framed.—Mr. Lowe defended the measure, which was condemned by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Spooner, who reiterated the arguments against it derived, according to their interpretation, from the authority of scripture and the canon-law.—Mr. Cobden having spoken in favour of the bill, a division was called, on which there appeared—for the measure, 165; against, 157: majority in favour of the bill, 8. The bill was then read a second time.

On Thursday, May 10, Sir E. PERRY, in moving for a select committee to consider how the Army of India may be made most available for the War in Europe, and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken if it should be deemed expedient to constitute the army of the East India Company a royal army, stated the reasons which had induced him to forego his intention of moving for a royal commission. If the war was to last, he affirmed that we must look to our Indian army as the source of our military reinforcements, and he entered into details respecting the strength of that army, which (including the Queen's European troops), amounted to 457,000 men, its organisation, and efficiency. What use, he asked, had been made of this fine army? None whatever. The services of Indian officers were available, who would have attracted a corps d'armée of 25,000

men to their standard for service in the Crimea, where the difficulties, which were normal occurrences in India, so embarrassing to European troops, would have been easily surmounted by them. He then proceeded to discuss the expediency of constituting the army of the East India Company a royal army, contending that for civil as well as military purposes in India the amalgamation of the two forces was of great importance, while the advantages as respected the interests of the two services would be immense. After a debate, in which the motion was principally supported by Sir DE LACY EVANS, and opposed by Sir J. HOGG, it was negatived by 171 to 62.

On the order for going into committee on the *Education (Scotland) Bill*, Mr. BRUCE moved that the committee be instructed to divide the bill into two bills,—one relating to the parochial schools, the other to the new schools contemplated by the bill. His object was to maintain the national system of parochial schools connected with the church, and which was at present in a state of great and increasing efficiency.—The Earl of DALKEITH moved that the debate be adjourned, which was agreed to.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable her Majesty to assent to a bill, as amended, of the legislature of Victoria, "to Establish a Constitution for the Colony of Victoria."—Mr. LOWE objected to the form in which it was proposed to validate a law which the legislature of Victoria had no power to pass.—Lord J. RUSSELL justified the course he had adopted, and leave was given to bring in the bill.

On Friday, May 11, Mr. M. GINSON gave notice that on the earliest disposable day he should move an address to the crown, thanking her Majesty for communicating to the legislature the papers relating to the *Vienna Conferences*; expressing regret that the opportunity of bringing the negotiations to a peaceful issue then offered had not been improved; and asserting that the interpretation of the third point conceded by Russia furnished the elements of renewed conferences, and a good basis for a just and satisfactory peace.

The adjourned debate on the third reading of the *Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill* was resumed by Mr. PACKE, who entered his protest against the measure, urging chiefly the unjust distinction which it would create to the disadvantage of the dwellers in rural districts.—Mr. MAGUIRE declared that the bill legalised plunder, and was directed specially against particular journals.—Mr. Barrow, Mr. M. Chambers, and Mr. Bentinck having spoken, the house divided—for the third reading, 138; against, 60; majority 78.—Mr. NAPIER, in the absence of Mr. Whiteside, moved a clause admitting to conveyance at a penny postage all printed sheets that should not exceed six ounces in weight.—The clause was opposed by the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, and negatived without a division.—The bill then passed.

On Monday, May 14, Sir B. HALL, in moving that the house go into committee on the *Metropolis Local Management Bill*, entered into an explanation of the amendments which he desired to introduce into the bill.—Lord EBRINGTON opposed the further consideration of the bill until the house had decided upon the principles of the bill announced by the President of the Board of Health for the modification of the act commonly known as Hobhouse's Act, which act was proposed to be incorporated in the metropolis bill.—After a short discussion, the amendment was withdrawn, and the house went into committee upon the bill.—Several verbal amendments having been agreed to in various clauses, the bill passed through committee.

On Tuesday, May 15, Captain SCOBELL moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the circumstances under which the grant of 20,000*l.*, to the patentees of the *Screw Propeller*, had been applied. He stated that the money had been divided by the Admiralty among parties who had no claim to it, and that Captain Carpenter, the real patentee, had obtained no share of it whatever.—Sir F. BARING, as first lord of the Admiralty at the time, defended his conduct in the payment of the 20,000*l.* He said the screw now in use by the Admiralty was a combination of various inventions, and the money was paid over to Mr. H. Currie,

as agent for all the patentees, who on his part gave the Admiralty a bond to secure them against all future claims. At that time Capt. Carpenter had not put in any claim whatever for a money payment on account of the infringement of his patent. When he did make such a claim, the officials at the Admiralty gave their opinion that his screw was not infringed at all by the screw used in the navy. In conclusion he reminded the house that this was not a case for a committee, but was strictly a question for the decision of the law courts.—After some discussion, the motion was rejected by a majority of 69 to 49.

On Wednesday, May 16, Sir W. CLAY moved the second reading of the *Church Rates Abolition Bill*. Mr. PACKE moved the bill be read a second time that day six months. Mr. Lloyd DAVIS seconded the amendment. The bill was opposed by Mr. Cowper and Mr. Lushington. Mr. Labouchere supported the bill, though he did not approve of its machinery.—Lord PALMERSTON said that he could not see that this bill would settle the vexed question of church rates. He did not think it would receive the sanction of the united branches of the legislature, nor, if it did, would it ensure, in his opinion, the fabric of the parish church. The parish churches, it must be remembered were national property; and it would not be for the honour of the country, more than it would be for the advantage of religion, that these fabrics should go to decay. Now, church rates were applied to two purposes—one the administration of divine worship, the other the maintenance of the fabric. He could understand and respect the aversion of dissenters to pay for the administration of the church worship, but he could not equally understand why they should object to the maintenance of the churches which were national property. In fact, he knew that in many parts of the country dissenters did cheerfully contribute to the maintenance of the churches. It was said that the government ought to settle this question. He could only reply that former governments had attempted the task and failed, and he confessed that he had no proposal to make on the subject. It was with the more reluctance, therefore, that he opposed this bill, but he did so from the full conviction that it would not effect its object.—Lord SEYMOUR deeply regretted the speech of the premier, which, instead of settling this question, would throw it back for years, agitating and exciting the country for years to come. The house divided, when the second reading was carried by a majority of 217 to 180.

On Thursday, May 17, the second reading of the *Public Prosecutors' Bill* was moved by Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE, who contended for the necessity of some change in the existing administration of the criminal law, which, he believed favoured the rich at the expense of the poor, and exercised a mischievous influence over the moral feeling of the community.—M. EWART, while approving the principle of the bill, thought that the arrangement of its details should be left for settlement by a select committee.—Lord PALMERSTON remarked that the question at issue was highly important, and intimated the intention of the Attorney-General to move for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the whole subject. In the prospect of such an inquiry he trusted that the house would suspend its judgment on the bill now presented. This was agreed to, and the further consideration of the bill was postponed for six weeks.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a bill enabling her Majesty to assent to a bill, as amended, passed by the Legislature of New South Wales, conferring a constitution on that colony, and granting a civil list out of the colonial revenues.—Mr. LOWE declared his intention strenuously to oppose the bill, being convinced that it was exceedingly unpopular in the colony, and injurious to its interests. He suggested that the clauses of the proposed constitution should be referred to a select committee.—Lord J. RUSSELL defended the measure, observing that it was intended to keep faith with the colonists, to whom the act passed in 1850 assigned the power of preparing a constitution for themselves. The conditions set forth in that statute having been complied with in the colony, he could not consent to delay the legislative sanction to the constitu-

tion so framed by throwing the whole question once more open for discussion before a select committee.—Mr. DUFFY reiterated some of the objections which had been urged by Mr. Lowe against the bill.—Mr. WILLIAMS also opposed the measure.—After some vindictory remarks and explanations from Mr. J. BALL, the motion was agreed to, and leave given to bring in the bill.—Lord J. RUSSELL afterwards obtained leave to introduce a bill amending and remodelling the laws now in force respecting the disposal of waste lands belonging to the crown in the several Australian colonies.

On Friday, May 18, Mr. F. FRENCH asked Lord Palmerston if he could give the house any information respecting the likelihood of *Lord Dundonald's Plans* being adopted by the country. He might now add that Lord Dundonald was prepared by the end of June to demolish every Russian fort in the Baltic, at an expense to the country that should in no case exceed 200,000*l.* He wished to know therefore when Lord Palmerston would give the Earl of Dundonald an answer as to the adoption of his plans.—Lord PALMERSTON said that the more Lord Dundonald's plans were considered, the greater did the difficulties in the way of carrying them into execution appear, and he must add that he was not prepared to state when the plans would be adopted.

Mr. FERGUS called attention to the misstatement that had been promulgated respecting the age and services of the *Late Captain Christie*. Attributing the authorship of those statements chiefly to Mr. Layard, he inquired whether the hon. member had received and noticed the communication from Captain Christie's relatives correcting his assertion?—Mr. LAYARD deprecated the renewal of personal altercations such as had before arisen on similar topics. With respect to Captain Christie, he declared that his own personal observation, combined with the testimony of other authorities, had led him to the conviction that that officer was unfit for the duties assigned to him as harbour-master at Balaklava.—The character of Captain Christie, and the substantiality of the personal charges brought by Mr. Layard against him and others, were warmly discussed by Sir J. Pakington, Mr. Bright, Sir J. Graham, Mr. Roebuck, Admiral Berkeley, and Mr. Otway.

The adjourned debate on the motion for going into committee on the *Scotch Education Bill* was resumed and concluded. On a division the motion was carried by 149 against 142.

On Monday, May 21st, Lord PALMERSTON,—in reply to several queries from Mr. S. HERBERT, who intimated that the course which himself and his friends would pursue with regard to *Mr. Milner Gibson's Proposed Motion* depended upon the answers,—said that the government did not consider the means of pacification exhausted—that Austria was still furnished, under the consent of the allies, with the means of bringing about a peace; the conferences were suspended, but not closed; and that the most favourable consideration would be given by the government to any propositions made through Austria by Russia for a pacific purpose, although they would never consent to any terms of peace which did not satisfy the house, and secure the objects of the war.—Mr. GLADSTONE remarked that the replies just given conveyed the assurance that negotiations had not yet ceased, and under these circumstances urged Mr. Gibson to postpone his motion. Having been interrupted in the course of his remarks by Mr. Roebuck on the point of order, Mr. Gladstone concluded by moving the adjournment of the debate.—Mr. S. HERBERT intimated his intention of opposing Mr. Gibson's motion, if then urged to a division.—Lord H. VANE, as the intended seconder of the motion, also expressed his persuasion that a postponement would be discreet.—Mr. DISRAELI said, that before the motion was withdrawn, the house had a right to expect a more explicit statement from the government as to their intentions. He attributed the postponement which was now in prospect to some mysterious and sinister operations of the prime minister.—Lord PALMERSTON justified his conduct as having been uniform and consistent throughout. When the conferences were suspended he laid a record of the proceedings before parliament as a matter of right, but had always declined himself to invite a

discussion on them, because the result might have been to shut the door to all further hope of peace. But, at the same time, he could not shirk such a discussion, which involved the question of confidence in his administration. His wish for delay at any time arose from no apprehension that the debate might be inconvenient to the government, but that it would be prejudicial to the country. All chance of a negotiation being brought to a successful issue must be destroyed if that house took the management out of the hands of the executive, and prescribed beforehand the basis on which they should treat, and the conditions on which peace could be accepted.—Mr. BRIGHT, on behalf of the peace party, disclaimed all partisan associations, and all indirect objects, their single purpose being to obtain an honourable peace.—Mr. ROEBUCK contended that nothing either in the circumstances that had occurred or in the ministerial speeches that had been made, gave any new complexion to affairs since Mr. Gibson first announced the terms of his motion; which, accordingly, he saw no reason for postponing.—The Marquis of GRANBY wished to know distinctly whether any new propositions for peace were now offered or under consideration?—Lord J. RUSSELL recapitulated the incidents of the last conferences in which he took part, and adverted to the communications that had subsequently been exchanged between the Russian envoys and the representatives of the western powers. Austria, he remarked, still declared that the means of pacification were not exhausted, and had shown herself throughout the negotiations willing to act with the allies, but reluctant to propose terms which would involve her in actual hostilities with Russia. As matters stood, he expected that Austria would make some final propositions, which, if rejected, must terminate the conferences; and if accepted, would re-open the negotiations under far more favourable auspices than heretofore.—After some further discussion, Mr. GIBSON consented to postpone his motion until after the Whitsuntide recess.

On Tuesday, May 22, Mr. WISE moved a resolution, expressing the opinion of the house that a complete revision of our *Diplomatic Establishments* should be carried into effect, according to the recommendation of the select committee appointed in 1850 to investigate the subject of official salaries. He supported his motion by citing numerous authorities, and adducing many proofs to show that, under the existing system, an extravagant outlay of public money was accompanied by a disgraceful neglect of the duties which ought properly to be performed by the envoys and consuls who represented Great Britain in different parts of the world.—The motion was seconded by Mr. EWART.—Lord PALMERSTON admitted the serious importance of the subject, but contended that many of the faults charged in times past against the diplomatic functionaries of the country had ceased to be applicable. On this point he enlarged at much length, insisting that the country was well represented by its diplomatic servants. He concluded by stating that at a cabinet council held but a few hours previously measures had been taken for the purpose of establishing as a rule, that all candidates for the public service should undergo an examination into their fitness and ability.—After some discussion, Mr. WISE intimated his intention of withdrawing the motion, but Mr. H. BAILLIE insisted on a division, in which there appeared—For the motion, 112; against, 57.

Mr. BERKELEY moved for leave to bring in a bill enacting that the votes at elections in Great Britain and Ireland should be henceforth taken by *Ballot*.—The motion was supported by Mr. Fielden, Mr. Gordon, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Bland, and Sir J. Fitzgerald; and opposed by Lord Seymour, Mr. Bentinck, and Lord Palmerston.—On a division it was negatived by 218 against 166.

On Thursday, May 24, Mr. DISRAELI moved his resolution on the subject of the *Policy of Government Respecting the War*. It was as follows:—"That this house cannot adjourn for the recess without expressing its dissatisfaction with the ambiguous language and uncertain conduct of her Majesty's government in reference to the great question of peace or war; and that, under these circumstances, this house feels it a duty to declare that it will continue to give every

support to her Majesty in the prosecution of the war, until her Majesty shall, in conjunction with her allies, obtain for this country a safe and honourable peace." Mr. Disraeli assigned as his motive for inviting a discussion upon the conduct of the war, the distrust with which he had been inspired by the ambiguous language and inconsistent course of the government, especially with regard to the conferences lately held at Vienna. For his own part, he had abstained from taking the initiative in the case, apprehending the imputation of party promptings, until the appearance of the notice given by Mr. Milner Gibson, followed as it was by the dramatic scene of Monday evening, convinced him that it was time to interfere from the opposition bench, in order to secure a serious discussion of the great question of peace or war. In the resolution which he now offered for their adoption he wished to express his conviction that the conduct of the administration had been inconsistent, and their language ambiguous, and to invite the house to declare that their determination was unchanged to carry on the war with unflinching energy. Tracing the proofs of mutability in the policy of the existing government, Mr. Disraeli remarked that shortly after the formation of the new cabinet, Sir J. Graham had elicited from the premier an assurance that the conditions on which he would make peace differed in no degree from those proposed by Lord Aberdeen; and yet the same right hon. baronet and his friends had lately promised their adhesion to the motion of Mr. Gibson, in which the terms insisted upon at the conferences were heavily censured. This, he contended, was a significant symptom of vacillation in the general policy of ministers, and he proceeded to collect from speeches and public documents the materials for substantiating a like charge of feebleness against Lord John Russell as an individual minister. Contending that the choice of a plenipotentiary to conduct the negotiations had been most unfortunate. He urged that Lord John Russell, before he went to Vienna, had committed himself to a violent and anti-pacific course; had overset a cabinet avowedly on the ground that its policy was too weak; and during the progress of the conferences had exhibited a want of skill and adroitness which had left the country in its present state of anxiety and peril. Quoting and commenting upon the Vienna protocols at much length, Mr. Disraeli contended that Lord John Russell had mismanaged his mission, with results not only of present failure in concluding a treaty of peace, but of rendering it almost impossible to obtain peace by means of a treaty hereafter. His unskillful handling had left affairs in an entanglement which diplomacy could no longer untie. He concluded by challenging the government to proclaim in positive terms the conditions on which they would accept peace, and the purpose for which they were prosecuting the war. The present indeterminate system, in which negotiations and war were carried on simultaneously, was most fatal. It led to disasters abroad, chilled the military spirit at home, and extended an injurious influence over our foreign relationships, inasmuch as a Power who had been appointed a mediator would never become an ally. He called upon the house to declare that the time of negotiation was past.—Sir F. BARING moved as an amendment a resolution in which regret was expressed at the unsuccessful result of the Vienna conferences, and a pledge given on the part the house to support the crown in the prosecution of the war.—Sir W. Heathcote, Mr. Seymour, Mr. Wilkinson, the Marquis of Granby, and Mr. Phillimore, opposed Mr. Disraeli's resolution.—Mr. GLADSTONE defended what was called the ambiguous conduct and language of the government as imposed by the necessity of the case, and the duty of an administration charged with great negotiations. If he charged the government with indecision, it was because they omitted to take advantage of the admirable opportunities afforded them in the course of the negotiations. For these reasons he objected equally to the motion of Mr. Disraeli and the amendment of Sir Francis Baring. What purpose, he asked, was in our minds in proceeding with the contest? To propose, not to dismember Russia—not to weaken her, but to insult and humiliate

her—was a course neither intelligent nor consistent; it left her in all her strength to meditate revenge. Mr. Gladstone then reviewed the four points to prove the importance of what had been conceded by Russia towards securing the objects for which the war was undertaken. The only question unsettled was that of the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, for which Russia herself had made two propositions. Examining the condition in which the controversy was now left, he remarked that the allies had obtained three out of four points; and on the fourth, which in itself was absolutely incapable of a perfect solution, they were presented with an alternative which in many respects was better than their own. Under the existing circumstances, he considered a prolongation of the war unjustifiable and unchristian.—Lord J. RUSSELL combated the conclusion that peace should now be made because Russia offered the terms which were demanded before the war began. The conditions that might have been accepted to avoid hostilities were insufficient after an actual appeal to arms. In one case the removal of immediate danger sufficed; in the other the belligerent powers were entitled to demand securities for the future. Upon this principle the noble lord examined the Russian propositions, and contended that they fulfilled none of the conditions on which the safety of Turkey and the peace of Europe must depend. To have accepted them would have resulted in a practical abandonment of the chief purpose for which war was undertaken, and a confession of our inability to limit the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. Denying that hostilities were prolonged for the sake of obtaining a military success, he pointed to the danger as well as the disagree that must attend the conclusion of a peace while Russia refused to concede by treaty the most important item of the terms required, and while Sebastopol still remained a standing menace to the world. Adverting to the Vienna conferences, Lord John Russell confessed that his political experience had been gathered rather in parliament than in diplomacy. He had, nevertheless, consented to undertake the mission, and took part in the conferences, the proceedings of which he passed in review, analysing and defining the various questions that successively presented themselves for consideration. Chief among them was the increasing and aggressive power of Russia, the increase being evident and enormous by land and sea, both in Europe and in Asia, and the aggression pushed forward with incessant activity, and under most favourable circumstances, against Turkey. This was the peril which the Western Powers were called upon to avert, and the noble lord delineated the various phases which the problem assumed as the successive events, military and political, transpired one after the other. Adverting finally to the Russian proposals, he contended that the maintenance by Russia of a strong fleet in the Black Sea could be desired only with the view of attacking Constantinople, from which danger the privilege to be granted to the Sultan of summoning aid from other powers would prove a most ineffectual protection. The alternative proposed by the Allied Powers, to make the Euxine a merely commercial sea, on which only a limited number of ships of war was to be permitted, formed, he believed, the most satisfactory principle whereon to solve the difficulty. Referring to the resolution proposed by Mr. Disraeli, Lord John urged that it converted a question of vast national interest to the narrowest party issue. Distrust, he admitted, might exist, but he doubted whether it would be removed by the transfer of government into the hands of the present opposition. Even in a party view of the question he believed that the step they had just taken constituted a false move.—On the motion of Mr. WHITESIDE the debate was then adjourned.

On Friday, May 25, the debate was resumed. Mr. WHITESIDE supported the resolutions.—Mr. LOWE objected both to the resolutions and the amendment, and intimated his intention to make another amendment.—Lord STANLEY announced his intention to vote in favour of the resolutions, as involving a direct censure on the administration.—Mr. LAYARD, in the course of some personal explanations, stated that his own motion was delayed, but not withdrawn, and would be brought forward on the first supply night after the recess. De-

nouncing half and half measures, he complained that nothing like a definite and consistent purpose was apparent on either side of the house. The country, he believed, was heartily weary of vacillation and imbecility, and sick, not of the war, but of those who had conducted it so inefficiently.—Lord PALMERSTON observed that it was now necessary to vindicate the justice of the war or the policy by which it was commenced. Confessing the existence of some imperfections, and the commission of many faults in detail, he defended the conduct of the war, especially as regarded the Crimean expedition, and the management of the negotiations, in which he observed no undue or inexpedient advantage had been given to Austria. So far from being embarrassed by the Austrian connection, the allies had derived much benefit from it, as the Turkish forces under Omer Pacha had been liberated for active service, and a vast Russian force kept on the Transylvanian frontier, by the interference of Austria, though in a neutral character. The progress of negotiation had never for a moment interrupted the active prosecution of hostilities; and after describing the several elements of which the British forces by sea and land were composed, and the allied armies that co-operated with them, he took credit for the strength and efficiency which they now displayed. Lord Palmerston then referred to Mr. Gladstone's speech, contending that the question whereon the conferences were suspended, involved a point of extreme importance, which it was impossible to waive if it were desired to afford Turkey a practical security from aggression. The great object which they had kept in view was to render peace permanent and safe even when England and France had withdrawn their fleets and armies, and reduced their military establishments to the ordinary scale of quiet times. The government were carrying on the contest with vigour and a fair prospect of success. It was not, he submitted, in the ranks of the opposition that the country would find ministers better fitted for the great work. But whatever might be the texture of the administration, he was convinced that the heart of the nation was set upon the energetic prosecution of the war.—Mr. Disraeli replied, and the house divided: for Mr. Disraeli's resolutions, 219; against, 319; majority, 100.—Sir F. Baring's amendment being then proposed as a substantive resolution, Mr. LOWE moved the amendment which he had placed on the paper, expressing the opinion that the refusal of Russia to limit her power in the Black Sea had exhausted the means of negotiation. After some discussion the debate was adjourned till after the recess, and the house then adjourned to Monday the 4th of June.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Monday, April 30th.—Militia (Ireland) Bill read a third time and passed.

May 1st.—University of Cambridge Bill recommitted.

3rd.—Loan Bill read a second time. Lord Clarendon's Statement as to the Vienna Conferences.

4th.—Loan Bill read a third time and passed.

5th.—Royal Assent to the Loan Bill.

7th.—Conduct of the War.—Lord Ellenborough's notice of Resolution. Affirmations (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Income Tax Bill read a second time.

8th.—Income Tax committed. Vienna Conferences, papers laid on the table.

10th.—Vienna Conferences, Lord Grey's notice of Resolution. Fisheries Bill read a second time. Church Patronage Bill read a second time. Income Tax Bill read a third time and passed.

11th.—Private Estates Bill read a first time. Fisheries Bill committed. Charitable Trusts Bill committed.

14th.—Newspaper Stamps Bill read a first time. Conduct of the War.

15th.—Intestacy (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Trade with Russia, Lord Albermarle's motion negatived. Affirmations (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed.

18th.—Army Reform, Lord Tumour's Statement. Intestacy (Scotland) Bill committed.

21st.—Charitable Trusts Bill referred to a Select Committee. Custom Duties Bill, Spirit Duties Bill, Religious Worship Bill, read a second time. Intestacy (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed.

House of Commons.—Friday, April 27.—Education (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Loan Bill went through committee.

30th.—Lord John Russell's statement as to Vienna Confer-

ences. Loan Bill, as amended, considered. Income Tax Bill committed. Newspaper Stamp Bill committed. Registration of Births (Scotland) Bill read a second time.

May 1st.—Loan Bill read a first time and passed. Maynooth College, Mr. Spooner's motion. Carlisle Universities Bill read a first time.

2nd.—Education Bill, adjourned debate on second reading.

3rd.—Poor Law (Scotland) Bill withdrawn. Sunday Trading (Metropolis) Bill read a second time. Land and Assessed Taxes Divisions Bill thrown out. Income Tax Bill read a third time and passed.

4th.—Tenants' Improvement Compensation (Ireland) Bill read a second time. Customs Duties Bill committed. Metropolitan Buildings Bill read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

7th.—Newspaper Stamp Bill, adjourned debate on third reading. Supply. Miscellaneous Estimates. Illness of the Speaker, Deputy-Speaker appointed. Registration of Births (Scotland) Bill committed. Parliamentary Representation Bill (Scotland), and Intestacy Bill (Scotland), read a third time and passed.

9th.—Marriage Bill thrown out. Marriage Law Amendment Bill read a second time. Vienna Conferences, papers laid on the table.

10th.—Indian Army, Sir E. Perry's motion for Inquiry negative. Government of Victoria Bill read a first time. Forms of Pleading Bill read a first time.

11th.—Vienna Conferences, Mr. Gibson's notice of motion. Newspaper Stamp Bill read a third time and passed. Spirit Duties Bill committed. Stamp Duties (Drafts on Bankers) Bill withdrawn. Registration of Births (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed. Consolidation of the Statutes, Mr. Locke King's motion.

14th.—Metropolis Local Management Bill in Committee. Infants' Marriage Bill read a third time and passed. Bankruptcy (Scotland) Bill read a first time.

15th.—Hardware, &c., Trade Bill read a first time. Excise Duties Bill read a third time and passed. Alterations in Pleadings Bill read a second time. Mortmain Bill read a first time.

16th.—Church Rates Abolition Bill read a second time. Carlisle Universities Bill read a second time.

17th.—Public Prosecutors Bill postponed. Parish Constables Bill read a second time. Intestates Bill committed. New South Wales Government Bill read a first time. Australian Waste Lands Bill read a first time.

18th.—Education (Scotland) Bill committed. Militia Bill committed. Alterations in Pleadings Bill committed. Pauper Children Education Bill committed. Dublin National Gallery Bill read a second time.

22nd.—Local Management of the Metropolis Bill considered in Committee. Mr. Wise's resolution for a revision of diplomatic establishments carried. Mr. Berkeley's motion for leave to bring in a Bill for the Ballot rejected. Leave given Mr. Horstaud to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to Bills of Lading. Absconding Debtors (Ireland) Bill, and Railways (Ireland) Bill read a second time.

At the sitting on Friday, the 27th of April, of the Select Committee of Inquiry into the *State of the Army in the Crimea*, Captain Dacres, R.N., and Captain Milne, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, were under examination throughout the sitting. Their evidence referred principally to the condition of the harbour of Balaklava, and the conduct of Admiral Bruce and the Harbour-Master, Captain Christie.

On Monday, April 30th, the examination of Captain Milne was continued. He affirmed, that if the army had suffered from any want of transports in the Black Sea, the Admiralty were not to blame; and he defended the character of Admiral Boxer, who was a most able, hard working, and meritorious man, who, from being a common seaman, had raised himself entirely by his own merit, and not from any Parliamentary influence. Captain Tallon, of the Sea Nymph, was then examined. He stated that he had taken twenty-four casks of boots and shoes on board at Constantinople in August with orders to convey them to Varna; that they were not received at Varna, because no papers had been sent with them; and he carried them on several voyages; that they were three times refused at Balaklava, and at last "shoved" ashore there on the 8th of November. Commander Hillyear, of the Agamemnon, said that the Naval Brigade was much better off than the troops during the winter. They were supplied from a store-ship made of a transport, dismantled on the 11th November: when the roads became impassable, the men and officers carried up their own provisions. The men were in bed three nights to one out; they found their messes ready cooked when they came from the trenches; they dug

caves and huttet themselves; and there never were more than 60 out of 1400 in hospital.

On Tuesday, May 1st, Sir John Burgoyne was examined. He said he was Lieutenant-General on the Staff in the Crimea; and while there he principally directed the siege operations which were carried out by officers of Engineers. He admitted that there were not men enough to execute the works required. He frequently applied for working parties, and could not get them. The extent of the attack he undertook was greater than the force could do with rapidity. He was in hopes that the army would not be detained before the place until the bad weather came; but after the first day's fire he altered his opinion. As far as he knew, the army landed in the Crimea without any knowledge of the Russian force, but it was always evident that sooner or later the Russians could receive great reinforcements. It was thought necessary to take advantage of the impression made at Alma to commence siege operations as soon as possible, with every available means, and under these circumstances it was not desirable to employ the working parties in the construction of the road. It was not within the scope of his duties to make a representation to the authorities, either here or in the Crimea, to the effect that they were furnished with too small an amount of men to carry on the duties of the siege. He never made any specific representation, but was constantly applying for men to reinforce the working parties, but the Adjutant-General told him he could not afford them, not having a sufficient strength at command. He did mention to Lord Raglan that he had to carry on the siege works without an adequate working force. He had the supreme direction of the engineering plans, but not of the details. To a certain extent he was in command, and the siege operations were entirely under his control. The failure of the first attack took place on the 17th October. Though he and Commissary Filder were at Lord Raglan's head-quarters on the 8th November, they did not know then that the army would have to winter in the Crimea; but there was no consultation as to the propriety of making a road. If Lord Raglan found the force insufficient for making the road, he could have sent home for men. Navigators would have been useful, and it would have been a better measure if, early in November, 1500 navvies had been sent out to make the road, than the subsequent construction of the railway. They would have been of great service in putting the road in order, but unfortunately it was not thought of. It was the Quartermaster-General's strict duty to make roads, but he always had engineering assistance. He (Sir J. Burgoyne) never made any remonstrance to Lord Raglan as to the absence of the road. The inconvenience of the road was greatly felt after the battle of Inkermann—the full inconvenience was then felt. The road became worse and worse, and at last was unavailable for pack-horses, which fell down and died. The road was one of the greatest difficulties the army sustained, and caused great delay and privation. It was a very serious ill, and it would have been desirable at any cost to have improved it. All this was the fault of our military institutions, which, in his opinion, in the field were notoriously insufficient. After the failure of the first fire before Sebastopol, Lord Raglan consulted him as to the next step to be taken, and he (Sir J. Burgoyne) was not of opinion that heavier ordnance would be required, as it was very heavy as it was. The deficiency that existed was not in the calibre of the guns so much as their quantity. The reason they did not expect to winter in Sebastopol was the expectation that the increased ammunition would have been successfully instrumental to its capture. When he formed the opinion they would have to stay the winter, he communicated it to Lord Raglan. The weak state of the army, and the state of the weather and roads, prevented the batteries from opening fire, and compelled them to stay the winter. It was not possible to employ soldiers in making the road without taking them off more important duties. It had been his opinion some time that the whole of our military institutions were insufficient, and that they undertook the war in the Crimea under those circumstances. He was so far consulted as to the army going to the Crimea that he was out in the country beforehand and made a report. He

was not consulted as to the chances of success of an attack on Sebastopol before the attack was made, and he gave no official opinion on that subject. He would rather not give an opinion as to the sufficiency of the allied forces for undertaking the expedition to the Crimea. The ground on which the army was encamped before Sebastopol was selected by the Quartermaster-General, but that of the siege operations by the engineering department. The Russian plan of defence had nothing new in it; it had been in existence for hundreds of years; it was simply the construction of earthworks in front of the fortress, which were not equal to masonry as a means of defence. The flank movement made by the army across the country after they landed in the Crimea he thought was rightly planned and properly executed.

On Wednesday, May 2, Mr. Grant, Comptroller of the Victualling Department of the Admiralty, was examined. He enumerated the articles which composed the supplies sent out to the troops, and, with respect to their quality, he could not call to his recollection any other complaint being made than that about the port wine. When the Admiralty was first asked to send out unroasted coffee for the army witness was surprised; and on the 27th of February, 1851, he wrote to Commissary Filder to know if unroasted coffee was what he wanted. Mr. Filder replied that he had consulted several military officers on the subject, who were of opinion that it would be better to send the coffee out in an unroasted state; and that whatever inconvenience might be found on roasting and grinding it, he had no doubt would be overcome by the men finding substitutes for ovens and mills. Witness caused six coffee-mills to be sent out for grinding coffee in the army. These mills were a little larger than those in ordinary domestic use. He did not recollect any case in which complaint had been made of a want of fair play in dealing with the samples. It had never been brought to his knowledge that persons in the Admiralty office had accepted bribes. If the bulk was not equal to the sample it was rejected, and that frequently occurred. On the assumption that the people concerned were rogues, it was possible that the bulk might be changed in its transit to the place of shipment, or at the place of shipment. In conclusion the witness stated that the Admiralty, to secure themselves against further fraud, were establishing factories for different articles.

On Thursday and Friday, May 3 and 4, Sir Thomas Hastings, the Ordnance Store-keeper, was examined at great length. His evidence showed the total absence of system in the war and ordnance departments. For instance, he stated, that, when the change took place in the management of the war department, on the appointment of a war minister, the ordnance office received no information on the subject beyond what it gathered from the public newspapers. He added that a written application which he made for an interview with Lord Panmure, on that nobleman's accession to office, and a subsequent personal application to Lord Panmure's private secretary to the same effect, were both allowed to remain unanswered, and that a letter he wrote in consequence received no reply. He also stated that on one occasion the secretary-at-war and the secretary-for-war were actually bidding against each other in the market for a supply of fur caps. Sir Thomas, moreover, told the committee that the requisitions for warm clothing, made in June by the board of ordnance to the secretary-for-war, were partly verbal and partly in writing, and that the verbal requisitions were not reduced to writing till some months later.

Sir Thomas Hastings continued his evidence on Friday the 4th and Monday the 7th. The chief points of his examination related to the administration of the ordnance department. His evidence went to show that the board of ordnance had worked with remarkable steadiness until the appointment of a separate ministry of war, when the clerk of the ordnance began to govern the board through the minister-of-war. Various cases were mentioned in which Sir Thomas differed from the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Panmure, and Mr. Monsell. One thing was very evident, that the board of ordnance has been practically in a transition state for the last twelve months; and that there have been several irre-

gularities, or rather departures from routine. Sir Thomas thought that the minister-of-war had acted illegally in interfering with the details of the ordnance department. He also dwelt much on the fact that the master-general is in the Crimea; and that Sir Hew Ross, the lieutenant-general, feels doubts as to the extent of his powers; although Sir Thomas thought that Sir Hew Ross succeeded, by his patent, to all the rights exercised by the master-general. The result of his evidence was, that it is as difficult, in his opinion, "to carry on successfully the administration of the ordnance department without a master-general and a complete board, as it would be to carry on the administration of the navy without a chief lord and a board of admiralty."

Mr. Monsell, clerk of the ordnance, was examined on Monday and Tuesday, the 7th and 8th. Much of his evidence was elicited to show the state of the ordnance department during the past year, and to throw light upon a kind of conflict between Mr. Monsell, backed by the minister-of-war, and Sir Thomas Hastings. He said that, at the beginning of the war, the board of ordnance was not in a condition to meet the urgent demands upon them, because their supply of stores in hand was deficient. The difficulties that had arisen lately must be attributed rather to the fact that the board is in a moribund state, as it is known that large changes are contemplated. Mr. Monsell most fully concurred with the Duke of Newcastle in the dissatisfaction he felt with the organisation of the board. But he did not think the absence of the master-general caused that state of things. The secretary of state interfered to decide what should be done. If he had not interfered as he did, by giving constant orders, however irregularly, verbally, or on slips of paper, our army would have been even in a worse state than the lamentable condition it was in from want of clothing and necessities.

Mr. Sidney Herbert's examination occupied the whole of Wednesday, the 9th. Questioned with respect to the power he exercised as secretary-at-war, he said that the effect of the separation of the offices of war and the colonies did not so much diminish the power of the secretary-at-war, as it did the exercise of powers "not strictly warranted by his official position, but which in a long course of years had grown upon him." Strictly he was a financial officer; and the office, at its origin, was simply a delegation from the treasury, which has still supreme control over the expenditure of the army. Examined with respect to the expedition to the Crimea, he said that the expectation was in favour of a *coup-de-main*, and not a long campaign. The troops went to the Crimea in light order; but he had nothing to do with the preparations. When the departments were separated, he placed himself at the disposal of Lord Aberdeen, with the view of facilitating changes; and subsequently he undertook a good deal of business, to relieve the Duke of Newcastle, which properly it was not the business of his office to do. In this way a dispute came under his notice between Dr. A. Smith and Mr. Guthrie as to whether additional staff-surgeons or regimental-surgeons should be appointed. After hearing the discussion, witness referred the matter to Lord Raglan, who decided in favour of taking additional regimental-surgeons. As it had turned out, it would have been better to have had, as Dr. A. Smith suggested, additional staff-surgeons. After the battle of the Alma, hearing that the hospitals at Seutari had failed, at a time when contradictory statements were made, Mr. Herbert wrote unofficially to Dr. Menzies, Major Sillery, and Mr. Wreford, urging them to simplify forms and procure what they could on the spot; to provide for the influx of patients, and see that nothing was wanting for their comfort. He also wrote to Lord Stratford, urging him to give assistance. He felt that a high military officer should be placed over the hospital, in place of Major Sillery; and such an officer was selected, but in the meantime Lord Raglan had appointed a "good man,"—Lord William Paulet. Questions were put with the view of obtaining an opinion respecting Lord Raglan's responsibility in the matter, especially as he had supreme control in the East. But Mr. Herbert stated that Dr. Hall had visited Seutari, by Lord

Raglan's directions, and on his return he gave a "flourishing account" of it; so that Lord Raglan could not remonstrate about deficiencies of which he was not aware. With respect to the medical men, Mr. Herbert retained his opinion that as medical men they exerted themselves well, but that as organisers they broke down. All the departments were underhanded; but originally "too much was expected and too little was done." Somebody was to blame, certainly; but it is difficult to pitch upon the right man. With respect to the hospital at Smyrna, Mr. Herbert said he should have preferred Sinope. There was a doubt as to the healthiness of Smyrna, and therefore it had not been permanently established, but it is at present working admirably. Mr. Herbert at an early period took part in providing clothing for the army, sheep-skin coats, &c. Some of the "ammunition boots" supplied by the colonels were too small, but the ordnance boots were large enough. Much of the clothing was obtained in Austria and Switzerland, and for that the ordnance cannot be held responsible. He explained that in cases where contracts for clothing entered into by the colonels have not expired, the troops continue to be supplied by them. In reply to questions from Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Layard, Mr. Herbert said that, with the exception of one whole week and part of another, he was in town throughout the recess, in constant communication with the Duke of Newcastle, and acting as a "volunteer assistant" to him.

Mr. Wood, secretary to the board of ordnance, was examined on Thursday, the 10th. He said that he was not aware of the inconvenience, as regarded the current business of the board, arising from the absence of Lord Raglan, the Master-General.—Vice-Admiral Dundas was also called on that day, and examined at considerable length. He commanded the Mediterranean fleet. On the 8th of June he was ordered to Besika Bay; on the 30th October he went on to the Bosphorus, and entered the Black Sea in January. Until the war broke out, he was at the orders of the ambassador. After the war broke out, he took his orders from the French admiral, who was his senior officer. Examined with respect to the information supplied to or obtained by him with respect to the strength of the Russian fleet, he said that he was supplied with a very "rough old statement" at first; that when he entered the Black Sea, he was not a bit the wiser; that he informed Lord Stratford, in July, 1853, that he had a Maltese who could get the information required by going to Sebastopol; but that Lord Stratford interposed difficulties—"something relating to passports." He thought the ambassador ought to have sent that man. He had endeavoured to collect information, but with little success; and he attributed his failure to the vigilance and caution of the Russian government, and the hostility of the Greeks. About the end of July he first heard of the expedition to the Crimea, and prepared accordingly; but the cholera broke out in the fleet, and delayed the sailing of the expedition. All the ships carried troops, except seven sail of the line, held in readiness to meet the Russians. It was arranged that the French should have a proportionate number in readiness; but they were compelled to carry French troops. He seemed much hurt at a statement made by the Duke of Newcastle, that the admiral had sent "inaccurate" information as to the strength of the enemy in the Crimea; and read letters of his own to Sir James Graham to show that he was right. One of these, addressed to Sir James Graham, and dated in May, 1854, stated that Sebastopol was a second Gibraltar; that there were 130,000 Russian troops in the Crimea, and 30,000 in the fortress itself, which was further protected by thirteen or fourteen sail of the line. The fleet could not get near Perkop; and it was impossible to prevent the entrance of Russian troops to the Crimea by the Sea of Azoff, without 4000 men; and these could not be spared. Asked whether he had sufficient means of transport to convey the necessary equipment of the army; he said that he had not; and to repeated questions, he answered that additional transport could not have been obtained "in time," either by himself or the ministry at home. With respect to Balaklava, the only complaint he ever heard was that the harbour was "a ditch;" that it was

"too small." He expressed a high opinion of Admiral Boxer and Captain Christie. Mr. Roebuck put this question—"I want to know whether, if sufficient precaution had been taken, you could not have had a sufficient supply of coals? Was there not a want of Providence in this matter?" The witness quickly answered, "No; it was Providence that prevented the wind from blowing in the direction to enable the vessels to bring up the coals. . . . Not twenty steam-tugs would have sufficed." In reply to another question, from Sir John Hanmer, "Did the ships sunk by the Russians at the entrance of Sebastopol materially strengthen it against the sea attack?" he replied, "No, not at all; the fleet could never have entered the harbour of Schastopol, unless the army had got there before it." In parts of his evidence, as that relating to the blockade, and the propriety of the expedition to the Crimea, he was stopped, because it involved statements respecting the French.

Lord Hardinge was examined on Friday, the 10th. After speaking of some details connected with the administration of the Ordnance, and the supply of artillery to the Crimea, he said : The state of our artillery is as near perfection as possible, and had created the admiration of the French. The army in the Crimea are armed with the Minie rifle—in general one-half with the rifle of the pattern of 1851, and the other half with Mr. Prince's rifle of 1853. They were at the present time receiving 4000 a month, and in a very short time the entire army would be in possession of the Minie rifle of 1853. These rifles were obtained from Liège, the United States, and Birmingham. The Guards were at first sent out with the common musket, but at Balaklava they were changed for the Minie rifle. The country was far better prepared now for hostilities than ever it was—both in a military and naval point of view. During the peace large additions had been made both in the naval and military departments of the country. The pattern adopted for the Minie rifle in 1853 was far better than that of 1851, because it fired more accurately, and gave a more distinct sound, and it could be heard whether a soldier was firing or being fired at with a Minie rifle or a musket. Mr. Prince was the inventor of the pattern of 1853. The supply, however, was not so rapid as it would have been, owing to the Russians being the first in the Belgian and American markets, and buying them up. On the duties of the military departments he stated as follows :—The board of ordnance was one of great difficulty and great responsibility, and he did not think the department could go on well in the absence of the master-general. The secretary-at-war had unlimited power and control over the Horse Guards; if the secretary-at-war had nominated any person to fill up any office or command, if the party was not inefficient, he should feel it his duty to adopt the recommendation. The commander-in-chief is responsible for the organisation of the army—in sending out, the equipment, and transport of all departments of the army, including the artillery; but the commander-in-chief was not responsible for the land transport corps service. That was a department quite new to this country, and that duty, in his opinion, devolved on the commissary-general. As to the amount of force sent out Lord Hardinge said : In the first instance there were 10,000, but subsequently he made arrangements for sending out 25,000 men, which was the number understood to be sent out. There were also seven battalions, amounting to 6,000 men, under General Cathcart's division, sent out, and instead of their remaining in reserve, they joined the main army; and it was his opinion that it was always better to have a large number of men at a given point in attacking an enemy, than holding them in reserve. The Duke of Wellington found out that mistake at Assaye, when he detached Colonel Stephenson with 6500 from his army, and left himself to resist the enemy with half his force. He never committed that mistake again. Lord Hardinge thought that the Duke of Newcastle had acted quite right in the orders he had given with regard to the drawing of troops from the colonies, and also in directing that the reserve troops should join the main army. After the battle of Inkermann eleven battalions, consisting of 6500 men, were sent, and he found that in

December we had a force of 25,508 men; and, notwithstanding the deaths from sickness and other circumstances at Varna and Balaklava, it was found at the end of the year there were a few hundreds of men more than originally intended. In answer to questions from Lord Seymour, as to the bad state of the road from Balaklava to the camp, Lord Hardinge stated that the quartermaster-general, on whom devolved the duty of putting it into a state of repair, was for a considerable time confined to bed from blindness and dysentery; and though another officer was appointed to discharge his functions whilst he was ill, it had been found impossible, at that time, for a variety of cogent reasons, to repair the road.

On Monday, the 14th, Sir James Graham was examined at great length. His examination went over a great many matters connected with his department,—such as his duties as First Lord; his relation to the board; the state of the transport service; the appointments of Captain Christie and Admiral Boxer; and the state of Balaklava and the Bosphorus; the blockade in the Black Sea; and the steps taken to obtain information with regard to the numbers of the Russians in the Crimea. The First Lord, he said, has no power to overrule the decision of the board; but Sir James never found that it interfered with his large discretionary powers. So far from being a "screen," the board is a council, without the aid of which no layman could advantageously administer the affairs of the navy. Sir James considered himself responsible for all things done in the naval department. When the war broke out, we had only three iron war-steamer, capable of carrying 2000 men, available as transports. Government were strongly of opinion that steamers should be employed as largely as possible; but the supply was so limited, and the demand rose so rapidly, that it was impossible to employ steamers alone. In reply to further questions, Sir James said, "Some persons seem to imagine that steamers could be obtained as easily as a cab could be called from a stand; but he had experienced difficulties in that respect of which the committee could have no conception. In the course of the year we had moved about 60,000 British soldiers to a distance of 3000 miles, 6000 horses and between 25,000 and 30,000 French troops from Marseilles to the Crimea; and simultaneously with the difficulties of supplying those transports for the Black Sea, we moved, principally by steam, 12,000 French soldiers to the Baltic. Altogether, in the course of the year, we had moved, chiefly by steamers, about 150,000 men; the greater number of whom we conveyed to a point 3000 miles distant, in addition to the 45,000 Turks brought from Bulgaria to Eupatoria; and, in addition to that, the Admiralty had fed not only the navy but the army, and during a portion of the year also some of our allies." He had seen a calculation which showed that a million of money was lost to the country by the transport service; but that calculation rested upon two erroneous assumptions,—that transports could be fitted up in four days, whereas they require ten or fourteen days; and that the transports could return as soon as they had landed their cargo. On military grounds, it is inexpedient to weaken a large army by cutting off its base of operations. When the Duke of Wellington occupied the lines of Torres Vedras, in a friendly country, with Lisbon and the Tagus in his rear, he kept there the means of embarkation for every man. Admiral Boxer was first made known to Sir James by Sir Thomas Hardy in 1830; and in 1851 Sir James selected him as "an officer who was better acquainted with the embarkation and disembarkation of troops than any officer he knew." He read letters showing that Admiral Boxer had applied, on the 8th of September, for a store-keeper, coal-depots, and receiving-ships at Constantinople for invalids. Sir James now regretted that he had not complied with the last request. Captain Christie was recommended by Captain Milne. Sir James thought well of his conduct, except in two particulars,—allowing the Prince to remain close in-shore off Balaklava at a single anchor, and sending to Varna for Turkish troops to come to Balaklava, instead of Eupatoria. For those mistakes the Board of Admiralty have ordered him to be tried by court-martial; "and

(said Sir James) he is now a broken-hearted man, who may not live to be tried." With reference to the question of the insufficiency of means for removing the sick and wounded, the committee would bear in mind the melancholy fact—one almost unexampled—that out of an army so limited in number as the British army, 13,800 men had been removed, sick or wounded, between the 3rd of December and the 17th of February; a number hardly possible to provide for. Asked whether his opinion concurred with the statement, that when the expedition departed for the Crimea, the government had no accurate information as to the force of the enemy, Sir James said, "Instead of opinion, I will give you fact. In the last week of July, I saw a Crimean authority (who, of course, must be nameless) who left the Crimea in the month of June. I saw him at the admiralty. I myself examined him; and an officer of the admiralty was in attendance upon me, who took down his statement in writing. It was most circumstantial, and gave a complete account of the Crimea, its locality, its harbours, its roads, productions, supply of water, &c.; and, what was more, of the force, which was estimated by him at 70,000 men, 8000 of whom were cavalry, 40,000 in garrison in Sebastopol, and the remainder dispersed throughout the Crimea. I sent that information to Admiral Dundas on the 29th of July, and I directed a copy to be sent to Lord Raglan. It must have been received by Admiral Dundas before the expedition sailed from Varua. I had the most implicit reliance on the statement, and subsequent events have proved its correctness."

The Earl of Aberdeen was examined on Tuesday the 15th. In reply to questions, he said that preparations for war were commenced about three months before war was declared. There were differences of opinion as to the imminence of the war. "Perhaps he was more sanguine than any other member of the government as to the possibility of maintaining peace; but it was matter of opinion." All matters of importance were submitted to the cabinet, and they sat continually until parliament was prorogued. After the prorogation, the various members dispersed, but he remained in town the whole year, except once when he went to Balmoral. When the cabinet dispersed, it was upon the understanding that it might be called together in forty-eight hours. Any cabinet minister might summon a council. Examined as to the time in November when the state of the army was brought under the notice of the cabinet, he said—"It was very late. I believe a great deal of the distress and difficulties existed before we had any official notice of it." We had information from private sources and from the public papers before we had any official information of it."—In your opinion, should the cabinet have been furnished with that information?" "Certainly; anything which required a remedy from this country."—"To whom does your lordship attribute the neglect of not having furnished that information?" "The authorities on the spot must of course be the persons whose duty it was to complain of anything that was amiss, and to endeavour to remedy it if necessary from home."—"About what period was the cabinet informed officially of the state of things in the East?" "It was very gradually at first; as we did not receive any official information, the statements were naturally more or less discredited; but they gradually became confirmed, and then we arrived at a knowledge of the real state of the army. We were in ignorance longer than we ought to have been of the state of the army in the East."—The Duke of Newcastle might have, in general terms, expressed his dissatisfaction with all the great departments; but he made no particular representation on the subject. The only reason why the commissariat was not transferred to him before the 22nd December was, that the duke declined to assume the responsibility until the business of the commissariat could be conducted under the roof of his own office. Respecting that measure the earl had some doubts, because the Duke of Wellington, in a minute written shortly before his death, strongly advised that the commissariat should never be separated from the Treasury.

At the end of Lord Aberdeen's examination it was announced that the taking of evidence had closed. It

now only remains for the committee to draw up their report, containing a summary of the evidence, and the conclusions which they deduce from it.

A GREAT meeting was held at the London Tavern on the 5th instant, for the purpose of forming an association to promote a thorough *Administrative Reform* in the various departments of the state. The great room was filled with above 1500 gentlemen connected with the trade and commerce of the city; and a supplemental meeting, consisting of those unable to obtain admission, was held at Guildhall. On and about the platform at the London Tavern were Messrs. J. I. Travers, J. D. Powles, S. Morley, J. P. Gassiot, W. Tite, W. J. Hall, James Hutchinson, W. S. Lindsay, M.P., Norman Wilkinson, F. Bennoch, S. Baker, G. Bishop, jun., J. Neale, and the following members of parliament: Capt. Scobell, Mr. Otway, Col. Reed, Messrs. F. French, Maguire, Murrough, Swift, Duffy, Oliveira, &c. Mr. Samuel Morley was voted to the chair, and introduced the subject of the meeting in an able speech. The other speakers, who moved and supported the resolutions, were Mr. Travers, Mr. Gassiot, Mr. Powles, Mr. Lindsay, Mr. Baker, Mr. Bennoch, Mr. Neale, Mr. Tite, Mr. Hutchinson, and Mr. G. Bishop. The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—1. "That the disasters to which the country has been subjected in the conduct of the present war are attributable to the inefficient and practically irresponsible management of the various departments of the state, and urgently demand a thorough change in the administrative system." 2. "That the true remedy for the system of maladministration which has caused so lamentable a sacrifice of labour, money, and human life, is to be sought in the introduction of enlarged experience and practical ability into the service of the state; that the exclusion from office of those who possess in a high degree the practical qualities necessary for the direction of affairs in a great commercial country is a reflection upon its intelligence and a betrayal of its interests; that while we disclaim every desire of excluding the aristocratic classes from participation in the councils of the crown, we feel it our duty to protest against the pretensions of any section of the community to monopolise the functions of administration." 3. "That an association be now formed to promote, by all constitutional means, the attainment of administrative reform. That the association be called the *Administrative Reform Association*, and that the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number, be appointed the committee, to collect funds, to prepare an address to the constituencies of the united kingdom, and generally to carry out the objects of the association:—Messrs. F. Bennoch, G. Bishop, jun., R. Crawford, J. B. Gassiot, J. Hutchinson, W. J. Hall, M'Gregor Laird, S. Laing, W. S. Lindsay, W. T. McCullagh, S. Morley, R. B. Moore, H. L. Morgan, W. L. Ogilvy, J. D. Powles, J. I. Travers, N. Wilkinson, J. G. Frith, S. Anory, W. Lister, W. Tite, D. Nicoll, J. Collett, S. Baker, E. Smith, jun., and B. Oliveira." Mr. Oliveira, M.P., who had just returned from the second meeting (over which he had presided) at the Guildhall, said that the resolutions adopted there were the same as they were now discussing, with the exception that a rider was added to the first one, to the effect that, in order to effect administrative reform, it was necessary to have an enlarged constituency. This resolution was then put, and carried *nem. con.* The chairman announced, as a proof of the earnest and sincere character of the movement, that twenty-five gentlemen in the room had already put down their names for a subscription of 100/- each. The announcement was received with loud cheering. A meeting of the committee was held on the 9th instant. Mr. S. Morley was chosen chairman; Messrs. Tite and Bennoch, deputy-chairmen; Mr. Travers, treasurer. The finance committee consists of Messrs. Gassiot, Travers, and Bishop. Messrs. Raikes, Currie & Co. are bankers to the association. Meetings of a similar description have been held in Finsbury, Norwich, Birmingham, Lincoln, Canterbury, Gloucester, and other places; and many other meetings are in preparation.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

ROBBERIES and other crimes by *Ticket-of-Leave Men* are becoming more and more frequent. On the 12th instant, David Hayes, a pugilist, and a ticket-of-leave man, was charged at Bow-street with being concerned, with another man already in custody, named Williams, in assaulting and robbing William Hayes. The prosecutor was walking through Seven Dials in broad daylight, when he was surrounded by a gang of ruffians—most of them on "ticket-of-leave"—knocked down, brutally assaulted, and robbed of his purse, containing three pounds and some silver. He was much cut and bruised by the rough treatment to which he was exposed, and only one of the offenders (Williams) was captured at the time of the occurrence. But the police had since apprehended Hayes, and the prosecutor now identified him as one of the ringleaders. The prisoners were committed for trial.

A case of *Breach of Promise of Marriage* was tried in the Court of Exchequer, on the 12th instant. The plaintiff claimed 3,000*l.* as compensation. The plaintiff, Miss Rogers, is the daughter of an artist now dead, and resides with her mother. The defendant, Mr. Thomson, is a machine-ruler manufacturer and bill-discounter, carrying on business at Golden-court. The parties became acquainted in September last, and in the following month, according to the plaintiff's statement, he made her an offer of marriage, in anticipation of which, dresses were ordered for herself and bridesmaids, and the wedding breakfast was arranged for at the house of a female friend in the Westminster-road. However, before the day arrived, she made minute inquiries respecting the defendant's means and character, and learned to her great astonishment and dismay that he was a married man, with a large family of children, his wife being still living. The match was accordingly broken off, and the defendant declining to make any compensation the present action was brought. Several letters, alleged to be written by the defendant to the plaintiff, were produced, in one of which he stated that he had bought the license, and two witnesses swore that these letters were in the defendant's handwriting. It was contended for the defence that this action was got up for the purpose of extorting money from the defendant by the production of letters which he repudiated as forgeries. The defendant averred that, in the month of August or September last, he and two other gentlemen saw Miss Rogers looking into a shop window in the Strand. They got into conversation with her, and she accompanied them to a tavern, where they had several glasses of brandy and water. One of the gentlemen told the young lady that the defendant was very rich, and though Mr. Thomson was short and somewhat deformed, Miss Esther bestowed so much of her favour upon him that he became absolutely enamoured, escorting her that evening to the railway station, and meeting her frequently by appointment on subsequent occasions, not at his own house, or at her mother's, or anywhere that a modest girl should consent to meet her lover. The defendant's counsel proposed to call witnesses to show that the plaintiff was a person of grossly immoral character, and referred to several letters from her to the defendant, in none of which had she alluded to the promise of marriage, each letter merely seeking a fresh supply of money in return for what favours the jury might easily imagine. That the defendant, a married man, and the father of a family, was to blame for the indulgence of amorous propensities no one could deny, but that was no reason why he should be compelled to pay to an artful and unprincipled young woman heavy damages, because of the alleged breach of a contract of marriage into which he had never entered.—The chief baron thought that the line of defence taken, he would not say improperly, would be anything but conducive to public morals, and his opinion was that it would be far better to refer the matter to some gentleman of the bar.—After a short consultation between the counsel on either side, the jury, under direction of the court, found their verdict for the plaintiff *pro formâ*, and the matter was referred by consent to Mr. Serjeant Shee, with power to examine both the plaintiff and the defendant.

A dreadful *Murder* was perpetrated at the village of Kate's-hill, near Dudley, on Saturday morning, the 12th inst. A young man, named Meadows, had been paying court to a young woman named Mason, but, becoming jealous, he determined that she should die. He borrowed a carbine, and having loaded it, proceeded to the public-house where the girl lived as a servant, and where she was engaged in cleaning. He called for something to drink, and, watching his opportunity, he deliberately discharged the contents of the deadly weapon. The principal portion of the charge lodged directly under the left ear. She only lived a few minutes after. The murderer made no attempt to escape. He said, "Revenge is sweet; I have had mine, and the law must take its own."

A frightful case of *Murder and Suicide* has occurred in Cheshire. At the village of Wheelock, near Sandbach, Mr. James Sproston, joiner and cabinet-maker, killed his wife with a sword, and afterwards blew out his own brains with a pistol. The cause appears to have been jealousy on the part of the husband, for which it appears there was no foundation. The husband was 46 years of age; the wife, Ann Sproston, 42. They had been married fifteen or sixteen years, were without children, and enjoyed a competence. With them lived a widowed sister of the wretched man, named Gill, and her son, a young man working as a joiner. For some weeks Sproston had made the suspicions of his wife's conduct the subject of frequent conversation with every one he knew. This had greatly affected her health. After breakfast on the morning of the murder they were left in the house alone. The last that was seen of them alive was at half-past seven o'clock. Mrs. Gill having been on an errand to Sandbach, returned about half-past nine. In the kitchen she found Mrs. Sproston kneeling in a pool of blood, with her head frightfully disfigured, there being a sword beside her. In her own parlour Mrs. Gill found Mr. Sproston seated on a chair, with his dreadfully shattered head hanging forward, and a pistol lying between his feet on the floor. She obtained immediate assistance; but Mr. Sproston was quite dead, and his wife did not live half an hour. An inquest was held, and the jury found that Mr. Sproston had killed his wife and then committed suicide, being at the time in a state of insanity. The details of the evidence were very shocking. It appeared that both the deceased were very tall persons, the husband being full six feet and the wife not much less. They were proportionally powerful, and the struggle must have been terrific, as the kitchen presented the appearance of a slaughterhouse. There was blood even on the ceiling. The blows had been dealt with immense force, and had cloven the skull; but the wound which had been the immediate cause of death was a frightful gash at the back of the neck, severing the vertebral column. Sproston had made a will, excluding his wife from all benefit or interest in his property; but this was the less remarkable as she had a private income settled in her own right, and sufficient to maintain her in comfort.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A *Fire*, causing the destruction of an immense amount of property, broke out in the extensive ship-building-yard at Millwall, the property of Messrs Scott Russell & Co., about nine o'clock on the night of the 3rd instant, in the newly-built floating battery, named the Etna. This battery adjoined on one side another vessel, the Wave Queen, intended also to be launched to-day, and on the other side a screw collier. The three occupied a large space in the yard, and were in such close proximity that it became apparent, unless the fire could be quickly subdued, not only would the battery be destroyed, but the ship on either side would be seriously injured. The most strenuous exertions were therefore made to collect the hands together, but before assistance could be rendered the flames rushed between the iron plates of the battery, firing every foot of timber from stem to stern; and the heat became so great that the iron plates, 4*i* inches thick, started in many places,

when the flames rose high in the air, lighting up the east end and the Surrey side of the water. The floating engine from the dockyard was soon in attendance, and as quickly set to work, and was followed by the float from Rotherhithe, and the steam floating-engine from Southwark-bridge. About eleven o'clock a frightful scene took place as the ponderous vessel, in a state of ignition, glided off the stocks most majestically into the river, amid the shrieks of some thousand persons who were in boats at the mouth of the dock. Several persons were so terrified that they jumped into the water, fearing the blazing vessel would fall and crush them to death. Fortunately the whole were rescued by the Thames police and watermen. The battery was totally destroyed, and both the other vessels were seriously injured.

The Emigrant Ship John of Plymouth has been wrecked, with a deplorable loss of life. This vessel left Plymouth on the 10th inst., bound for Quebec, having on board 149 adult passengers, 98 children, and 16 infants, together with a crew in all of 19, making the total number of souls on board 282. She left the Sound at four in the afternoon, on the top of the ebb tide, with a favourable wind off the land. She struck on the Manacles Rocks, and immediately afterwards drove into Godrevy Cove, and sank, it being then about half-past 10 at night. The number saved was only 75, so that the number of those drowned is about 200. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Captain Rawle, and strongly condemned the conduct of the crew. Captain Rawle was committed to gaol on the coroner's warrant. The magistrates of Falmouth have held an inquiry into the loss of this ship, and have made a report to the Board of Trade. It states that out of four boats, three were sufficient, but two of them, the life-boat especially, were neither properly stowed nor prepared; and that there was only one lantern wherewith to make signals of distress. For these two defects the government emigration-officer and the owners are pronounced culpable. They further report, that the ship was lost in consequence either of the ignorance or the gross culpable carelessness of the captain; that the captain's conduct, that of the chief mate, and of the crew with the exception of two men, was most reprehensible after the ship struck. They helped themselves, and did nothing for the passengers. In consequence of finding that the mate was ignorant of his duties, the report suggests, "that in all passenger-ships the first mate should be required to have a certificate of competency, instead of one of services only; and that the number and nature of the night-signals required to be provided by the owners of passenger-ships should be specified."

A fatal *Railway Accident* happened on Saturday morning on the 12th inst., on the North London line of Railway. Mr. Dyer, the manager of the cattle department, and principal cashier to the company, was walking on the line, proceeding from Fenchurch-street-station towards Camden, when he met the eleven o'clock a.m. passenger-train coming from the latter place, and not being quick enough in getting out of the way, was knocked down by the engine and much injured. On examination at the University Hospital, where he was immediately conveyed, it was ascertained the unfortunate gentleman had, in addition to a fractured arm, sustained extensive internal injuries, from the effects of which he died the following day.



SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

FROM the *Registrar-General's Return*, it appears that 95,332 persons were married in the last quarter of the year 1854. The number exceeds the average, but is less than that of the corresponding quarter of 1853. The falling off has taken place in London, in the parts of Kent round Maidstone, in Portsmouth, Plymouth, and the seaports, which have been affected by the absence of seamen in the war; in Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire, Cornwall, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Cumberland, and Westmoreland. The marriages in Manchester and

Ashton declined, but in the aggregate the marriages in Lancashire were not below the average.

As usual in the month of May, there have been many Meetings of Benevolent Societies.

The annual meeting of the *British and Foreign School Society* was held on the 8th at the Schoolroom in the Borough Road. The Duke of Argyll occupied the chair, and addressed the meeting. He looked upon the society as the monument and standard of certain great principles; and he thought that public opinion is every day tending more and more to some such practical solution of the question as that offered by the society's rules. The more the differences in the schemes before parliament are discussed, the smaller they will become; as they are differences in theory rather than practice, and such as may be overcome by the exercise of a little toleration and good sense on the part of the English people. Though objecting to their plan, he defended the advocates of secular instruction from the charge of indifference to religion. He also found the "Denominational or sectarian system" objectionable, because it would leave a great part of the people uneducated; but at the same time he must say that the Denominational system is quite compatible with larger and more liberal views, and that the plan of throwing schools open to all, with the option of religious in addition to secular instruction for the scholars, is very generally adopted. There was, however, a third mode—that adopted by the British and Foreign School Society—the only one that can possibly be made the groundwork of a great and general system of conjoined secular and religious education, having for its basis the Scriptures and the *Scriptures alone*. According to the report, 41 new schools, affording education to 4000 children, have been opened; 892 visits of inspection have been made to schools in 443 towns and villages; and 977 pupils have attended the model schools. The total receipts of the year have been £17,358*l.*, of which 5,425*l.* consisted of legacies; the expenditure, including the repayment of loan, 15,691*l.*

On the 7th a meeting was held at Willis's Rooms in aid of the funds of the *Plymouth Royal Sailors' Home*. Rear-Admiral Spencer presided, and a number of naval officers were present. It was stated that some time since the Queen and Prince Albert had jointly contributed 300*l.* towards the enlargement of the Home, and promised 200*l.* in addition provided a sufficient sum be subscribed by the public. The Home had been found the greatest moral and material benefit not only to our seamen, but to shipwrecked mariners and sailors in want of shelter. A considerable sum was subscribed by the meeting.

On the same day, the Duke of Wellington presided over the first annual meeting of the *Soldiers' Infant Home*—intended to provide shelter and training for the orphan daughters of soldiers. Colonel Wynn, the Rev. Henry Mackenzie, the Chaplain-General, and Colonel Crawford, spoke on behalf of the objects of the meeting.

The forty-seventh anniversary of the *Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress* was held on the 9th, at the London Tavern; Mr. John Labouchere in the chair. Since its foundation, the society has granted relief in 87,028 cases: whether friend or foe, it relieves all alike. The subscriptions of the evening amounted to 1,490*l.*

The eleventh meeting of the *Ragged School Union* was held on the 7th, at Exeter Hall: the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. It appeared that 300 schools connected with the society are now at work in the metropolis. In connection with the institutions now on the society's list there are 113 Sunday schools, with 14,248 scholars; 79 day schools, with 10,449 scholars; 101 evening schools, with 7,184 scholars. The increase of scholars during the past year was—in Sunday schools, 1,148; in day schools, 1,449; in industrial classes, 294. The average of shoe-blacks engaged was 95, 54 of whom had been sent out during the last six or seven months. The total earnings were 1,443*l.* 7*s.*; and the number of pairs of boots and shoes cleaned, 346,404; 837 scholars had been sent from 54 of the schools to situations, the remaining 80 schools not having forwarded their returns. The income of the Union was 5,085*l.*; the balance at the banker's, 453*l.*

On the 2nd inst., the annual dinner in aid of the funds of *King's College Hospital* was given at the Albion Tavern. Mr. Sidney Herbert presided on the occasion over a distinguished company. From the report it appeared that in the year 1854, there were entered on the books, 27,694 patients: since the year 1839, when the hospital was first opened, 282,705 patients have been admitted to the benefits of the charity, of whom 17,943 were in-patients, and 259,235 out-patients, and 5,527 poor married women attended at their own homes. The cost of the hospital is 5000*l.*: and as the annual subscriptions only amount to 1,500*l.*, the charity is dependent upon the public for free gifts to the amount of 3,500*l.*

Lord Ebrington presided over the annual festival of *St. Mary's Hospital*, on the same day. Since its establishment in 1851, this institution has relieved 27,000 patients. It is dependent on voluntary support: its expenditure is 6000*l.* a year, and it is in debt 2,600*l.*

The annual meeting of the *Suppression of Mendicity Society* was held on the 12th instant, at their rooms, in Red Lion-square; the Marquis of Westminster, president, in the chair. The Report stated that the results of last year's operations were favourable to the society; the war, the demand for labour, and emigration, having diminished the pressure on its resources. The registered cases of applicants with ticket at the office had fallen from 419 in 1853, to 332 in 1854. The unregistered cases fell from 7,661 to 6,801. The meals given fell from 62,788 to 52,212. The money relief given to mendicants fell from 1,263*l.* to 1,144*l.* Meantime the income from donations and subscriptions remained nearly stationary, being 2,977*l.* in 1853, and 3,015*l.* in 1854. The number of vagrants committed had not varied much, being 354 in 1853, and 326 in 1854. There was a great diminution in the number of Irish applying for relief. During the severe frost in February last 494 men and women, independently of children, had been relieved, and 13,000 meals given. 3,277 begging-letters had been sent for investigation, which was more by 232 than in 1853. Of these 1,000 had been favourably reported upon, 36 fraudulent begging-letter writers were apprehended and punished. The receipts of the year amounted to 4,244*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, and at its close there was a balance in hand, and at the bankers, of 75*l.*

A lecture on *Nature Printing* was delivered by Mr. Henry Bradbury, at the Royal Institution, on the 11th instant. This is a process by which copies of objects in nature are obtained with a fidelity and exactness such as it would be impossible for the most skilful artist to attain with his pencil. The principle of the art appears to have been known as far back as 250 years ago, and to have been applied in the first instance to the taking impressions of plants for the purposes of botanists. A leaf, being placed over an oil-lamp, was, when blackened and mollified by the heat, placed between two sheets of paper, and a violent pressure being applied to it, the most accurate copy of it, to the minutest detail, was obtained. The lecturer, having shown the process by experiment, and exhibited prints of plants thus obtained, proceeded to trace the progress of the art to its next step, the taking impressions by steel rollers, in which case it was necessary for the plant to be perfectly dry. As the taking impressions of objects from nature was extremely valuable, not only to botanists but to other naturalists, numerous experiments were made, particularly from 1833 to 1852, when a new method was discovered of printing from gutta percha, by which the object remained uninjured after great pressure. The process now adopted is to press the object into a leaden plate, the second important element in the printing being electrotyping. By this process the most accurate copies are obtained of plants, ferns, lace, fossils, and grained woods. In the course of the lecture, which was rendered interesting, and was greatly simplified, by experiments and specimens of the art, Mr. Bradbury was frequently cheered by a large and scientific audience.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

The Queen, on the 18th inst., presented the Crimean Medal to a large body of officers and men entitled to

that honourable decoration. The ceremony took place on the Parade-ground of the Horse Guards. In front of the archway, a low dais was erected for her Majesty; above, level with the first-floor windows in the centre, was a gallery for the Royal Family; on either side were tiers of seats, to the left for the families and friends of the decorated officers, and to the right for the members of the government, their families and friends. Facing the Queen, on the park-side of the square, were galleries for the two houses of parliament. The other sides of the square were also filled up; and vast masses of people assembled to witness the scene. As early as ten o'clock, hundreds of officers, wearing the most diverse uniforms, and hundreds of young soldiers who had never seen service, had assembled; and the space shone with scarlet and gold. A large body of troops, the Household Cavalry, and the Guards, were drawn up in front of the dais, and behind them the recipients of the medal.—The Queen came at eleven; accompanied by Prince Albert, the Duke of Saxe Coburg Gothia, in the uniform of the Austrian army, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Alfred. The troops were drawn up in order of precedence, Cavalry, Artillery, Sappers and Miners, Guards, and Infantry of the Line, and then the Sailors and Marines. As each man passed, General Wetherall read out to the Queen his name and services; Lord Panmure handed to her Majesty the appropriate medal; and, with pleasant smiles and kind words, the Queen gave the medal away. The first to receive it was the Duke of Cambridge; then came Colonel James Maedonald, the Earl of Lucan, the Earl of Cardigan, General Scarlett, Sir John Burgoyne, the Foot Guards, Sir de Lacy Evans, and the Infantry of the Line; and next, Admiral Dundas with the Marines and Sailors. Three officers attracted special attention. Sir Thomas Troubridge of the 7th, who lost both legs at Inkermann, received his medal from a wheeled chair; and the Queen made him one of her Aides-de-camp on the spot. The other two were Captain Sayer of the 23rd, also in a wheeled chair; and Captain Currie of the 19th, who limped painfully upon crutches. As the soldiers passed they simply lifted their hats; but the sailors, long before they reached the dais, were uncovered to a man. Appropriate airs were played as each division passed. The weather was fine, and the whole scene was admirably managed. It was brought to a close by a parade of the troops. After the parade, the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, the sailors and marines, dined in the Queen's Riding-school; the Queen and her family paying them a visit. The officers who were most cheered were the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Cardigan, and Sir de Lacy Evans. To enumerate all who were present would be only to name those who are the most distinguished in civil and military affairs. The list of the gallant fellows who received the medal, was given in full in the morning papers of the following day.

Lord Adolphus Vane Tempest, M.P., for North Durham, who is with his regiment of Guards in the Crimea, having received a hat from his mother, the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry, immediately on its creation fitted up a large and roomy tent adjoining it, which he furnished with a library of standard works, several periodicals, and three daily papers; and, having a good stock of stationery, he opened it for the use of the men of his company for reading, and writing letters home. This act of generosity is highly valued by the men.

The Queen has granted permission to Lord Raglan, Vice-Admiral Deans Dundas, Lieut.-General Sir J. Burgoyne, Lieut.-General Sir G. Brown, and Rear-Admiral Sir E. Lyons, to accept and wear the Turkish imperial order of the Medjidie of the first class, as a mark of the Sultan's approbation of their distinguished services before the enemy during the present war.

Her Majesty and the royal family went to Osborne on the 22nd inst., to spend the Whitsun holidays. The Duchess of Kent went to Osborne at the same time, on a visit to her Majesty.

The drawings contributed by the royal children to the patriotic fund were sold on the 14th inst., according to announcement. The Princess-Royal's drawing was

purchased for 250 guineas. The Prince of Wales's brought 55 guineas, and the remaining drawings by the Princess Alice, Princess Helena, and Prince Alfred, 30 guineas each. They will, however, continue to be exhibited at Burlington House during the season.

Mr. Albert Smith gave his Mont Blanc entertainment for the thousandth time on the 1st inst.

Mr. Macaulay has just been elected a member of the Royal Academy of Amsterdam, in the class of literature, languages, history, and belles-lettres. Jacob Grimm the grammarian, Ranke the historian, Lepsius the archæologist, and other learned men of European reputation, were elected at the same time.

At a late meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Sir Roderick Murchison announced that the Geographical Society of Paris had transmitted to the society of London three medals for presentation to three members of that society. They were—a gold medal to Captain McClure, for his discovery of the north-west passage; a silver medal to Captain Inglefield, for his discoveries in the arctic regions; and a silver medal to Mr. Francis Galton, for his explorations in the Namaqua, Damara, and Ovampo countries, northward of the Orange River,

in south-west Africa. The medals were accordingly presented by Sir Roderick to these gentlemen.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

SIR HENRY ROWLEY BISHOP, the celebrated composer, died in London, on the 30th ult., in his 69th year.

REAR-ADmirAL COREY died at Paris, on the 1st inst.

ADMIRAL LLOYD died suddenly, at his residence, at Cheltenham, on the 29th ult., aged 70.

SIR ROBERT HARVEY INGLIS, BART., died on the 5th inst., in London, in his 70th year.

The widow of Sir Humphry Davy died on the 8th inst., at her residence in Park-street, Grosvenor-square, at an advanced age.

LORD DE MAULEY died on the 16th inst., in his 68th year, at his residence in St. James's-street.

Mrs. TRAVERS, the popular vocalist, died at Kensington, on the 26th inst. He was known in the musical world by the name of Travers, but his real name was Romer, and he belonged to the talented family of the Romers, the different members of which have been long popularly identified with the lyrical drama.

LORD SPENCER COMPTON, Captain in the 15th Hussars, died suddenly, on the 21st inst., at Exeter, where he was stationed with his regiment.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE *Overland Mail* has brought dates from Bombay to April 17, and from Calcutta to April 10. There have been some severe skirmishes on the Punjab frontier, between a field force under Colonel Craigie, and the Mounds, or hostile hill-men, who have been beaten and dispersed.—On the 30th March, a treaty of friendship with the Cabul government, was signed at Peshawar by Sirdar Goolam Hyder Khan, on the part of Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan, and by Mr. John Lawrence, chief-commissioner of the Punjab, on the part of Lord Dalhousie. The treaty contains three articles; by the first of which friendship and peace are established between the British government and Dost Mahomed Khan and his heirs; by the second, the East India Company engages to respect the territories now possessed by the Ameer, and not to interfere therein; and by the third, the Ameer and his heirs undertake not only to do the same towards us, but to be the friends of our friends, and the enemies of our enemies.—The Supreme Government has ordered the construction of a line of telegraph from Mirzapore *via* Jubbulpore, Seonee, Nagpore, and Hyderabad to Bellary, connecting those places with the existing lines between the capitals of the presidencies and the Punjab.

Advices from the *Cape of Good Hope* mention the opening of the second session of the Colonial Parliament on the 15th March, by Sir George Grey. In his opening speech, the governor stated the nature of his plans for the defence of the frontier. He proposed that enrolled English pensioners, married men, and medically fit, should be invited to settle in British Cafraria; that each man should have a cottage and an acre of land; that for seven years he should be liable to serve twelve twelve days without pay, and any number of days for pay when called on; and that at the end of the seven years he should have a free grant of the cottage and land. The villages would be so arranged as to form, with the military post, a continuous line of defence. At the same time, every effort should be made to raise the Cafraries in Christianity and civilisation, by the establishment among them, and beyond our boundary, of missions connected with industrial schools, by employing them on public works, and by other similar means.

There are advices from *Melbourne* to the 11th March,

and from Sydney to the 7th of that month. The Melbourne accounts state, that the artisans who had been thrown out of employment, consequent upon the demand for building having ceased, were beginning to turn their attention to gardening and other industrial pursuits. A great portion of land, which had previously been sown for hay, had this year been sown with wheat, and in some districts considerable progress had been made in the erection of flour-mills. The total amount of gold dust brought by the government escorts from the various gold-fields from the beginning of January to the 3rd of March was 176,584 ounces. The weather had been unusually dry, but the miners were engaged in making piles of washing stuff, and it was expected that the average of the preceding year would be maintained. Quartz crushing was beginning to be carried on with great activity at Bendigo and Ballarat. At Ballarat, also, machinery was extensively used for pumping water from the deep levels, which, in some cases, were upwards of 200 feet from the surface. The circulation of the banks continued steady, but there was a slight increase in the deposits. The drain upon them is said to have ceased, and the accounts of the colonists to be improving rapidly. The suspension of steam communication, both *via* India and the Cape of Good Hope, had created much dissatisfaction throughout the whole of the Australian colonies. The supplies at the diggings, in consequence of the suspension of credit, were short, and every one was endeavouring to lay in stock, which caused a brisk trade in provisions, ironmongery, machinery, cordage, and other suitable goods. In Victoria, for months past, the rate of wages had been declining. Rents were falling. The trial of the diggers, taken prisoners at Ballarat, commenced on the 22nd February, but, verdicts of acquittal having been returned in two cases, the attorney-general declared he had no confidence in the jury, and refused to proceed with the trial of the other prisoners that session.

On the 16th of February the council voted 20,000/- as a contribution from the colony to the Patriotic Fund.

Discoveries of gold have been made on the Keilor Plains, and also at Mount Ararat, near the River Hopkins. The workings at Anderson's Creek, or rather in the bed of the Yarra Yarra, were still spoken of favourably, and several hundreds of men were reported to be at work there.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE narrative of the *Siege of Sebastopol* in our last number was brought down to the 14th of April. The

fire from the batteries of the Allies, mentioned in Lord Raglan's despatch of that date, continued till the 17th,

when Lord Raglan, after consultation with General Canrobert, ordered the batteries to fire 30 rounds each gun per day, instead of 117 as they had been doing before. Some days afterwards the fire was suspended altogether. But the progress of the siege was not stopped.

A despatch from Lord Raglan dated the 17th of April, speaks of the operations to that date:—"The fire of both the French and English armies has been continued upon Sebastopol since I addressed your lordship on the 14th instant; and though superior to that of the enemy, it has not produced that permanent effect which might have been anticipated from its constancy, power, and accuracy. The guns of the Russians have been turned upon some of our advanced works in vast numbers; and in one particular instance the injury sustained by a battery was so great, that the unremitting exertions of Captains Henry and Waleot, and the gallantry and determination of the artillerymen under their orders, alone enabled them to keep up the fire and to maintain themselves in it. In another battery, yesterday, a shell burst close to the magazine; which in consequence exploded, killing, I am much concerned to say, one man, wounding two most severely, and seven in a less degree. Both the batteries I have mentioned have been repaired and restored to their original condition. The French blew up several small mines in front of the Bastion du Mat after sunset on Sunday evening, with a view to establish a parallel on the spot. This operation greatly alarmed the enemy; who at once commenced a heavy fire of cannon and musketry in every direction from that part of the town, which they kept up for a considerable time. It occasioned no harm on our left attack, upon which a part of it was directed, and I hope did little injury to our allies. Several hundreds of the Russian cavalry and a small body of Cossacks appeared on the low range of heights in front of Balaklava this morning, and remained about an hour, when they retired, the greater portion by the bridge of Tractea. Their object was probably a reconnaissance."

The casualties from the 13th to the 15th April, inclusive, present a total of 2 officers and 16 men killed, and 4 officers and 79 men wounded. Lord Raglan laments the loss of two young and promising officers killed—Lieutenant Preston of the 88th, and Lieutenant Mitchell of the Artillery. The four wounded officers are: Royal Engineers—Lieutenant G. Graham, slightly; Captain and Assistant-Engineer, H. Green, H.E.I.C., Service, severely. Royal Artillery—Assistant-Surgeon R. W. Cookerill, slightly. 33rd Foot—Captain E. W. Donovan, severely. Two of these are thus mentioned by the commander-in-chief:—"I regret to add, that two others have been severely wounded—Captain Green, of the H.E.I.C. Service, who had been employed throughout the siege as an assistant-engineer, with great credit to himself and every advantage to the service; and Captain Donovan of the 33rd, who has most zealously served from the commencement of the campaign."

On the 17th the English began to push zigzags in advance of Gordon's battery from the right and left; and on the 18th they had been carried on the right to within sixty yards of the Maikoff, and on the left to within a hundred yards of the Redan. The great difficulty lay in throwing up the trench connecting the two approaches. The enemy found out what the allies were at, and sank a line of rifle-pits so as to enfilade the parallel. Our men persevered, galled by the fire; but when the Russians brought out a 12-pounder and fired grape, the men were forced to run for shelter; whence they peppered away at the Russians and their gun until the latter withdrew. In the morning, the gun was again advanced, and the working party was compelled to retire. Nor was this all: the Russians sank new pits, in such a position as actually prevented the completion of the English parallel. Therefore it became necessary to take both pits. This was accomplished, though with considerable loss, on the night of the 19th and 20th."

On the 19th, Colonel Egerton, at the head of 250 men from the Light Division, dashed from the breast-work, surprised the enemy, and drove him out. A scattering volley, however, was fired by the flying party, and one shot killed Lieutenant Lempriere, of the 77th. Colonel Egerton carried him to shelter; and, returning to the troops busily engaged in making good

their lodgment, found that a column of 1000 Russians were marching down upon them from the Maikoff. The British shook their advance by a close volley; they hesitated; then closed and were hurled back by the bayonet after an obstinate combat; and the British remained in possession of the pits. Unfortunately, Colonel Egerton, the gallant leader of the party, was killed by a bullet; and with him 21 men, besides 5 officers and 30 men wounded. On the same night the working party secured the pits against an assault from the enemy, and completed the parallel. On the night of the 20th, the British seized the second line of pits without a blow; but a force returned later, and were driven off.

The fleet had begun to take an active part in the siege. On the night of the 14th, the Valorous first and then the Gladiator ran in towards the forts, and after firing shot and shell into the batteries, retired. Only one shot from the batteries struck the Valorous. For the rest of the night the casemates were lighted up. On the night of the 17th, the gun-boat Wrangler followed this example. A thick fog overspread the sea. Preceded by a boat with muffled oars, sounding as it advanced, the Wrangler steamed slowly in, and approached, it is stated, "within four fathoms of the forts." From a little after eleven until past one, she kept up a fire of shot, shell, and rockets, from her Lancaster guns; and retired, having "suffered no further injury than the cutting of one of her stays." On the night of the 18th, the Furious and Tribune went in and fired 68-pounder shots into the forts and the town; but the night was fine, and they could not remain long. On the 20th, the Dauntless ran in, but was forced to return at the second broadside, because one of her guns burst and set her on fire. The fire was speedily extinguished, but four men and a boy were wounded.

On the 19th the allied generals, Lord Raglan, Gen. Canrobert, and Omer Pacha, made a reconnaissance of the enemy's position near Balaklava. This movement, of great magnitude and importance, is described by the correspondent of the *Morning Herald*:—"The force consisted of two French batteries of artillery, four squadrons of French cavalry, and a battalion of Zouaves, one English troop of Horse Artillery, and the whole of the English cavalry, (with the Tenth Hussars, about 100 strong), seven battalions of Turkish infantry, two squadrons of Turkish cavalry, and one Turkish rocket battery; making a total force of 2000 cavalry, 10,000 infantry, and 18 guns. The whole force proceeded at about ten in the morning from the right of our position in the direction of Kamara. Here were stationed a few Cossack pickets; who beat a precipitate retreat as the allies advanced. Nothing was found in the village beyond the ruins of some huts and three or four small stables, which the Cossacks had converted into picket-houses for themselves. These were pulled down and their materials scattered about. The church, the only edifice left untouched, in the centre of the village, was not interfered with—in fact, it could hardly be reduced to a worse state of filth than the enemy have themselves made. After passing Kamara, the troops, preceded by the cavalry and artillery, advanced in the direction of the hills on the Woronzow road overlooking the Tscher-naya, in the direction of Tchourgoum. On these hills between 150 and 200 Cossacks were collected. They fell back as we advanced, carefully keeping out of range, and retiring on the road to Tchourgoum. On the hills from which they had started a number of mud huts had been erected, capable of accommodating nearly a thousand men. These, with some enclosures containing forage, were set fire to. Half the infantry, with two French field-batteries, remained on these hills; while the cavalry, Horse Artillery, and the remainder of the infantry, with the rocket-battery, moved down the road towards Tchourgoum. The road seemed in an admirable state, and gave no traces of having been used to convey supplies, which it must have done had a large force been in the neighbourhood. On the hills over Tchourgoum the pickets, which had increased to some 300 or 400 infantry and cavalry, made a stand, and watched our movements. Our cavalry advanced to the village, which seemed deserted and almost in ruins. There appeared no traces of inhabitants, or, indeed, of its having been recently occupied at all except by soldiers. A

number of dogs were about it, which bayed and snarled as our men drew near; but these were the only tokens of life or animation. Beyond the hills, and on all the available coverings on the other side of the Tschernaya, appeared earthworks and heavy batteries. On two of the nearest heights six guns in one and eight in the other could be easily counted. In a kind of basin formed behind the hills, a Russian camp was no doubt assembled, as Cossacks came and went in that direction repeatedly. There was, however, no means of ascertaining either the number or strength of the enemy without bringing on an engagement, and perhaps a severe one. Behind the works of the heights, which were fortified, were Russian troops; and in the wood leading towards Mackenzie's Farm commanding redoubts seemed to have been thrown up in different places. When the Turks came in sight of the enemy, their eagerness and impatience to engage them became extreme; but, as matter of course, it was not gratified beyond allowing them to throw a few rockets among the Cossacks collected on the hills. This they did with powerful alacrity, and with an accuracy and precision of aim which gained loud praise from all the officers on the ground. At the first one or two rockets the Cossacks parted and scampered in all directions, amidst shouts of laughter from the allies; and before half-a-dozen had been fired, not a Russian was to be seen. As the allies fell back, a body of about 3000 infantry emerged from behind the hills; occupying the heights as we abandoned them, and carefully watching each movement we made, but also as carefully watching any step which might bring them into collision with us. In this manner the allies quietly retired towards Balaklava; having ascertained, beyond all doubt, that no force about which we need be at all apprehensive remained in the vicinity. An attempt was made to entrap the Russian infantry by leaving a small force on the hills on the Woronzow road, while a strong body remained at hand on the slopes beneath; but the Muscovites were not to be so caught, and quietly waited until all were withdrawn and half across the plain. It was understood that one of the allied generals was strongly in favour of a force remaining to occupy the hills and Woronzow road; but his advice was overruled by that of his colleagues."

On the 21st the Turkish cavalry, alone, pushed forward as far as Tchourgoum, and skirmished with the Cossacks.

A despatch from Lord Raglan, dated the 21st of April, describes the reconnaissance already mentioned, and the attack on the rifle pits on the 19th. Lord Raglan mentions the names of officers who distinguished themselves in the trenches and in the attack on the rifle-pits. "Colonel Egerton was an officer of superior merit, and conducted all his duties, whether in the camp or in the field, in a manner highly to his own honour and greatly to the advantage of the public; and her Majesty's service could not have sustained a more severe loss; and it is so felt in this army, and in the 77th, where he was much beloved and is deeply lamented. Captain Lempriere was a very young but most promising officer. Captain Owen, whose leg has since been amputated, and Lieutenant Baynes, are both most valuable officers of Engineers; as is Captain King, of the same corps, who was wounded two nights before. Brigadier-General Lockyer, who was the general officer of the trenches in the right attack, Lieutenant-Colonel Mundy, of the 33rd, who succeeded to the command of the troops engaged in the operation on the death of Colonel Egerton, and Captain Gwilt of the 34th, deserved to be most favourably mentioned; and Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, the officer of Engineers in charge of the right attack, distinguished himself, as he has done on many previous occasions, in a remarkable manner. The conduct of the troops was admirable. In my despatch of the 17th, I informed your lordship that a magazine had exploded in one of our batteries; but I omitted to state that Captain Dixon, of the artillery, availed himself of that opportunity to evince the coolest judgment and most determined gallantry, by instantly opening a gun upon the enemy, notwithstanding the confusion which the bursting of the shell had occasioned, the number of men who had suffered from it, and the great damage the battery had sustained."

The casualties from the 16th to the 19th inclusive

were 2 officers and 22 men killed; 7 officers and 102 men wounded. The officers killed were Colonel Egerton and Captain Lempriere. The officers wounded were—Lieutenant W. Norris, 2d Battalion Rifle Brigade, severely; Captain F. W. King, Royal Engineers, severely; Lieutenant J. W. Trevor, 55th Regiment of Foot, dangerously; Captain B. D. Gilby, 77th Regiment of Foot, slightly; Lieutenant and Adjutant G. B. Morgan, slightly; Captain H. C. C. Owen, Royal Engineers, dangerously; Lieutenant C. E. S. Baynes, dangerously. In the naval brigade, from the 17th to the 20th April inclusive, five men were wounded.

Lord Raglan's next despatch is dated the 1st of May. He states that "the Russians continue actively engaged in covering their advanced works, and have constructed a new battery on their left of the Mamelon; troops are constantly in motion on the north side, and there is every appearance of the establishment of a very large camp on the plateau above the Belbek, extending towards Mackenzie's Farm. No movement has been perceived on the Tschernaya." Lord Raglan further reports the arrival of the 3rd Regiment (or Buffs) at Balaklava, and that of the Alna, having the draft of the Guards on board. The lists of casualties from the 23rd to the 29th ult. consist of 1 sergeant, and 17 rank and file killed; and 1 sergeant and 71 rank and file wounded.

In a despatch dated the 5th of May, Lord Raglan says:—"Since I wrote on the 1st instant, nothing of importance has arisen; the enemy still appear to be collecting troops upon the high ground on the opposite side of the Tschernaya, in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol, and convoys are constantly seen moving in that direction. The fire from the place upon our trenches has not been heavy; but, notwithstanding, I have some casualties to report, as shown in the accompanying returns; and I have to lament the death of three promising young officers, Lieutenants Carter, of the Royal Engineers, Curtis of the 46th, and White of the 62nd regiments. On the night of the 1st inst. the French attacked a kind of counter-guard, which the Russians had established in front of the central bastion. The operation was quite successful, and the enemy were driven out with great loss, leaving behind them nine small mortars. Our allies have remained in the work, notwithstanding the heavy fire to which they have been exposed, and have established themselves therein, frustrating the efforts made by their adversaries to dispossess them of it on the following day, when a vigorous sortie was repulsed, and the Russians were again great sufferers. The conduct of the French troops was very brilliant." The casualties on this occasion, besides the officers named, amounted to 1 drummer and 6 rank and file killed; 5 sergeants, and 32 rank and file wounded.

On the 4th instant an expedition of combined French and English troops sailed from Balaklava and Kamiesch, for the purpose, it was understood of attacking Kertch, a place in the peninsula, which forms the eastern extremity of the Crimea. The troops were under the command of Sir George Brown, and consisted of about 8000 French and 5000 English. There was also a considerable fleet of ships, of war and gun-boats, including the Albert with Sir Edmund Lyons. The project, however, was abandoned, pursuant, it was conjectured, to orders from the governments at home. The expedition suddenly returned to Balaklava on the morning of the 6th. It had been previously known that a telegraphic despatch was received at head-quarters and a message sent after the fleet, but its purport was not mentioned until the fleet itself divulged it by making its appearance off Balaklava. There has been a general feeling of disappointment among all ranks engaged in the expedition at its recall before their work was even commenced.

The correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, who accompanied this expedition, writes as follows:—"I sailed from Balaklava early on the morning of the 4th. All the troops had previously embarked and started for their destination. Only two commissariat vessels, one steam sloop, and a ship for the wounded, remained behind. I was in one of these, and all four proceeded with haste to Kamiesch, in order to learn the direction in which they were to steer to overtake the rest of the squadron. On arriving at Kamiesch we found that Captain

Mitchell, of the Queen, was senior officer, and that he only was aware of our destination. But as it unfortunately happened, Captain Mitchell was absent at Lord Raglan's head-quarters, and no one knew in which direction we were to proceed. In the course of the afternoon Captain Mitchell returned, and informed all the vessels then waiting that they were to use all speed, and repair instantly to the rendezvous in lat. 44° 55', long. 36° 28'. This, at a moment's glance at the map, showed to be off Kertch, and by no means far off it either, but well in sight of land. The positive delight that was manifested by every one on finding that an attack on Kertch was really intended was almost beyond bounds, and away we steamed in the direction of the rendezvous. Towards noon, on the 5th, we came in sight of a dense smoke bank, amid which the tapering spars of men of war showed that we were fast approaching the rendezvous. As we came up all the vessels appeared in motion. The huge screw three and two deckers were steaming along in stately rapidity, followed by a train of vessels of all kinds and sizes, the steamers towing the sailers. We rejoiced that we had overtaken them in time, though we were all greatly perplexed at the direction in which the flotilla was steering. The high bold land and fertile shores of Kertch were full in view. Three hours more would have brought us to the spot selected for our disembarkation, yet beyond all doubt the fleet was not proceeding in that direction, but, on the contrary, was retracing its steps, apparently on the route to Balaklava. For a moment a dismal gloom fell on all. Had we forgotten all our ammunition? had the military and medical chests been left behind? or had Sir George Brown and the French general quarrelled? were the questions eagerly asked of men who knew the general tenor of our arrangements far too well to suppose that any absurdity of the kind was improbable. Every one could conjecture, but no one could answer, till some one, who was unwilling to believe that an expedition the most secret, the most perfect, and best managed of its kind, would be abandoned without cause, suggested that Kertch was a mere *ruse*, and that we were now proceeding to our real destination — very likely Nicolaief or Perekop. The hint was eagerly caught at. Anything rather than suppose the expedition was abandoned, and so we closed and followed in the wake of the fleet, without much murmuring or discontent. Just as we were about to proceed to the admiral to report our arrival, and solicit instructions, the Fury steam-frigate ran alongside and hailed. Our captain informed the Fury what we were, and what officers and stores we had on board, but the answer was imperative — 'It does not matter who the devil you are, or what the devil you have got. The admiral's orders are, that you return with the rest of the squadron to Balaklava!' The news came upon us like a thunderbolt. No one could believe that he had heard aright, and all seemed marvellously inclined to be insubordinate, and attack Kertch on their own hook. But the orders were far too clear to leave any loophole for mistake. They were given plainly and coolly: they were distinctly heard, and were evidently said with the most intense disgust and dissatisfaction. In addition to these orders, the whole fleet was evidently returning; there could be no mistake about that, and so with heavy hearts the ship was put about, and bidding adieu to the shores of Kertch we followed with the rest."

Another dispatch received from Lord Raglan is dated the 8th instant. "The enemy assaulted our advanced parallel on the right attack on the night of the 5th inst., and some actually got into the trench; but they were speedily driven out and repulsed with the utmost gallantry by the detachments occupying it, of the 30th and 49th Regiments, under Captain Williamson and Lieutenant Gubbins, of the former, and Lieutenant Rochfort, of the latter, who, unfortunately, was severely wounded; and I regret to have to add that several valuable non-commissioned officers and men were killed and wounded on the occasion. On the same night Captain Arnold, of the 4th Foot, was wounded and taken prisoner, whilst posting the advanced sentries on the left attack. The loss of the services of this officer is greatly to be lamented. He had done his duty unre-

mittingly, and in the most spirited manner, throughout the operations of the siege. I inclose the return of casualties to the 6th inst. I have heard that six ships, having on board Sardinian troops, have arrived in the Bosphorus.—P.S. I have the satisfaction to announce to you the arrival of the first detachment of the 12th Lancers."

It is added in a note that intelligence has since been received of the death of Captain Arnold.

The last despatch from Lord Raglan is dated the 12th. It is as follows:—"I do myself the honour to acquaint your lordship that General de la Marmora, with a portion of the Sardinian contingent, arrived off Balaklava on the night of the 8th inst., and he came up to headquarters the following morning. The very unfavourable state of the weather since the 9th has prevented any material part of the force being landed; and it has been found necessary to send the vessels that brought it, and which could not be got into the harbour, to Kazatch Bay, until it should moderate. Five troops of the 12th Lancers landed on the 9th from the Himalaya, which performed the voyage from Alexandria to Balaklava in ninety-four hours. The enemy made two serious assaults upon our most advanced parallel of the right attack on the night of the 9th, but were on each occasion most nobly met, and repulsed with considerable loss. The arrangements of Colonel Trollope, who had charge of the right attack, and Lieutenant-Colonel Mundy, the field-officer of the trenches, were most judicious; and Captain Turner of the Royal Fusiliers, and Captain Jordan, of the 34th Regiment, are reported to have done their duty in the most gallant manner. They opened a powerful fire on our trenches on the following night, and exposed their columns to a heavy musketry fire from the troops on duty. They did not, however, reach the parapets, nor indeed come very near them. Last night a very determined sortie was made upon the advance of our left attack. The enemy moved forward in two columns from the Woronzow road. Our advanced sentries having slowly retired, the guard of the trenches was prepared to receive them, and consequently drove them back in the most determined manner. A few Russians only got into the parallel, and five were left dead close outside. The conduct of both officers and men was admirable, and it is with deep regret that I have to report the death of Captain Edwards, of the 68th foot, and that of five men. I have also the pain of saying that the wounded amount to thirty. Owing to the great quantity of rain which has fallen during the last few days, the service in the trenches has again been most arduous and severe upon our men, who deserve all praise for their energy and untiring perseverance. I enclose the returns of casualties to the 10th inst."

The latest intelligence from Sebastopol is contained in the following telegraphic despatch from General Pelissier, dated the 24th inst.:—"A very lively combat, directed against our important position, has lasted all night. We obtained a complete success. The enemy's loss was enormous, and ours sensible."

No intelligence of importance has as yet been received from the *Baltic Fleet*. A letter from an officer on board one of the ships, dated Revel Roads, the 13th of May, says:—"We have been following the ice all the way up, and anchored here eight days after the roads were cleared. Our flying squadron have some time ago effected a blockade, and I am happy to say 10 to 15 prizes have already been made, chiefly by the Archer and the Geyser, off Riga. The state of health on board, I am sorry to say, is very bad. We have all sorts of illness in the ship, and amongst others small-pox—four officers and 12 men infected by it; besides 60 to 70 on the list for other things. At Revel the people are all on the alert; 30,000 men are quartered in the town. The ladies and children have taken to the country, and every house-owner has been compelled to lay in provisions for six months. There are no men of war here. The fleet, or at least the greater portion of the division last year stationed at Sveaborg, has effected a junction with the one at Cronstadt, evidently after our departure last November, as the ice still covers the upper part of the Gulf. The commander-in-chief has already been beyond Sveaborg, and though we left England a month

later than last year we are in these waters ten days earlier than Sir Charles Napier's squadron. We like our new admiral much.

By the following telegraphic intelligence from Lord Raglan, dated the 27th instant, it appears that the expedition to Kerch has been renewed, and that the troops have effected a successful landing:—“We are masters of the Sea of Azoff without a casualty. The troops landed at Kerch on her Majesty's birthday, and the enemy fled, blowing up their fortifications on both sides of the Straits, and destroying their steamers. Some vessels of 50 guns have fallen into the hands of the Allies.”

The following telegraphic despatch, dated Kiel, May 22, gives the latest intelligence of the French fleet in the Baltic:—“The French fleet, under the command of Rear-Admiral Penaud, left yesterday evening during magnificent weather. The entire population assembled on the shore to witness us getting under sail, which was executed with remarkable precision. At the moment when our vessels raised anchor, the steamer *Hecla*, of the Royal Danish navy, took up a position in advance of the fleet, and saluted every French vessel which passed by it with three prolonged hurrahs.”

A daring *Attempt on the Life of the Emperor of the French* was made at Paris on Saturday afternoon, the 28th ult. The Emperor was going on horseback to the Bois de Boulogne for an airing, followed by his Aides-de-Camp, Count Edgar Ney and Lieutenant-Colonel Valabreque. The empress had preceded him in an open carriage. When he arrived opposite the pleasure-gardens of the Chateau de Fleurs, a man stepped out of the footpath, and, leaning against a lamp-post to steady his aim, fired a pistol at the Emperor. Colonel Ney spurred his horse upon the assassin; who, moving to one side, and getting nearer to the Emperor, fired a second shot, at a distance of from ten to five paces. Both happily failed, although it is asserted that the second ball touched the Emperor's hat. Two men, dressed like operatives but said to be police-agents, seized the assassin; and the gendarme Alessandri, who always follows the Emperor in a carriage, together with M. Hirevoix, a commissary of police, jumped out of their vehicle, and assisted in the arrest. As the assassin resisted, they used him roughly, and Alessandri wounded him with a dagger-cane. The Emperor, who behaved with great coolness, called out, “*Épargnez-le—ne le tuez pas, le miserable!*” and, bowing to the people who cheered, rode quietly onward towards the Bois de Boulogne. He had sent on a messenger to apprise the empress of his safety; and, meeting her a few yards beyond the Arc de Triomphe, rode by the side of her carriage back to the Tuilleries, amid the congratulations of thousands, who quickly swarmed along the route. The empress sobbed and wept convulsively. The assassin was conveyed to the nearest guard-house; beside the pistol that he fired, two others and a dagger were found upon him. In the evening the emperor and empress went to the Opera Comique and were warmly received. The criminal was tried on the 7th inst. before the Cour d'Assizes de la Seine. His name was Pianori, a handsome young man, about thirty. It appeared on the trial that he was born in the Roman States; that he professed to be a shoemaker; and that he served in the Roman war of independence—it is supposed in Garibaldi's corps. After the French occupation he resided in Piedmont; which he quitted in 1851, and travelled in France under the name of Liverani. In Paris he obtained employment as a shoemaker, but he worked so badly that he was speedily discharged. Next he visited London; and there, it would appear, by some means or other he earned handsome wages, and saved 500 francs. In March last he returned to Paris, carrying with him a double-barrelled, two single-barrelled pistols, and a poniard. On the 28th April he left his lodgings armed with these weapons and a sharp razor besides, and made the attempt on the emperor's life. It appeared further that he had previously been guilty of many crimes; and had been, under an assumed name, condemned to the galley for

twelve years, in consequence of having committed a murder for political motives. To a question from the president, as to whether he had “undergone the influence of the refugees in London, and had accepted from them an execrable mission,” he answered in the negative, and declared that he was in the habit of seeing few persons out of his own trade. He denied that the crime was premeditated, and insisted that it was only on the same day that the thought of firing at the emperor occurred to him. The money found on him was 100 francs in gold and 14 in silver, which he said was the rest of his savings; and he again denied that either the money or the arms had been given him to commit the crime. Pianori was defended by M. Benoit Champy, a deputy appointed by the court. The accused was found guilty, and sentenced to die the death of a paricide. He appealed to the Court of Cassation, against his sentence, at the last moment; alleging informality in his trial. The appeal was not sustained. If Pianori did belong to any secret society, he has been true to his comrades, for at the last moment he very decidedly said:—“I have no accomplices, but others will achieve what I have sought to perform.” At five o'clock on Monday morning, the 14th inst., at the usual place of execution of the Roquette prison, he was led to the scaffold as a paricide, his face covered with a black veil, and executed. His last words were, “*Vive l'Italie!*”

The opening of the *Great Exhibition at Paris* took place on the 15th instant. It was a less magnificent scene than had been expected. The interior of the building was in an unfinished state, and the weather was unfavourable. The doors were open for the reception of visitors from ten till twelve; then they were closed for an hour, and the Emperor was to arrive at one. By twelve the galleries set apart for visitors were filled by ten thousand persons; but the accommodation was very defective. “Gentlemen” occupied many of the best seats; and ladies, dropping with fatigue, were kept standing all the morning. In the centre of the transept, on a platform spread with rich carpets, were two fauteuils, surmounted by a rich canopy. On the right and left were clusters of flags and eagles. In front and around this throne were places set apart for the diplomatic body—the great officers of state, the senate and legislative body, the army, the clergy, the judges, and the members of the imperial family. Above the throne was the orchestra. From ten till twelve the reserved space gradually filled; and the eye of the spectator was dazzled with the brilliant uniforms and the insignia of orders belonging to every government in Europe. Shortly after twelve o'clock, Prince Napoleon, escorting the Queen-Mother, Christina of Spain, entered the building. The emperor did not arrive with his usual punctuality, but twenty minutes behind time. It is remarked that both he and the empress looked ill. As he entered, a shout of “*Vive l'Empereur!*” arose. The proceedings began with the reading of a long report by Prince Napoleon, the head of the commission, giving an account of the rise and progress of the exposition; and to this report the Emperor made a brief reply. Then, descending from the throne, the Emperor and Empress, followed by the officers of the household, marched round the building. Cheers arose as they proceeded, the British “*hurrah*” rising above other cries. After this the Emperor and Empress quitted the palace, their stay having lasted only about half an hour.

Accounts from Vienna state that the conferences are closed, and that a protocol has been drawn up, recording the definitive failure of the negotiations.

Letters from St. Petersburg, of May 18, announce that Cronstadt is declared in a state of siege. No one can henceforth enter the town without a special permission from the governor.

A periodical has been started at St. Petersburg, called *The Mirror for Englishmen*, for the avowed purpose of holding up to ridicule the manners and customs of England. The illustrations contain a series of what are called ‘characteristic sketches,’ but which are nothing but the most stale and grotesque caricatures of English life. There is the very antique joke of the Englishman bringing his wife to market with a halter round her

neck, and selling her by auction. Lord Palmerston comes in for his share of the satire, and, of course, Sir Charles Napier and his last year's *promenade sur mer* play a conspicuous figure. Amongst other pieces of wit is a scene in the house of lords, in which a 'mild' gets up, and asks why the blockading squadron do not go up to the White Sea through the Gulf of Bothnia, which, he maintains, is the nearest route. The *Petersburg Zeitung*, in alluding to this, affirms that it is by no means an exaggerated picture of the ignorance of the English, for that the children of the middle and lower classes never heard of God, and have not the least idea who Victoria is, adding, by way of a clincher to its veracity, that a monster petition was lately presented to parliament by the schoolmasters of England, which contained no less than 836 crosses in lieu of signatures.

The government of *Saxe-Coburg Gotha* has just promulgated the law of succession for the duchy. It is to the effect, that in case the reigning duke should die without leaving direct heirs, the succession shall pass to Prince Albert and his descendants, but that the reigning king of England and the heir presumptive to the throne of England shall be excluded. It is further enacted, that if, when the succession shall become vacant, there shall be no descendant qualified to succeed, other than the king and heir presumptive of England, the king and heir shall be bound to cause the duchies to be administered by a governor, until a descendant qualified to succeed shall have attained his majority. The appanage of the heir presumptive to the duchies is fixed

from his majority at 18,000 florins (about 1,800*l.*) a-year. According to this arrangement, upon the death of the reigning duke, who has no child, Prince Alfred would become the heir presumptive, Prince Albert immediately succeeding.

The advices from *Naples* describe an eruption of Vesuvius, of extraordinary duration and violence. From the latest intelligence, dated the 10th instant, it appears that there had been a suspension of the flow of lava for eighteen hours, and that all fear of further damage was over. It is consolatory to be able to state that not one life has been lost, though many have been in danger, from mere foolhardiness, from walking over ground where no other person had been, or peering into fissures vomiting fire and smoke, for no other earthly reason than to be able to say that they had done it. As to the material loss which the landholders on the line of the streams have suffered, it is nothing compared with what it might and must have been had it not been for the temporary suspension and cooling of the lava; whole townships must then have been swept away, and a blackened waste appeared where once was smiling vineyards and pretty villas.

The intelligence from *New York* is to the 16th inst., but it contains nothing of importance.

The last dates from *California* are April 24, with gold to the amount of above a million dollars. The mining districts are reported in a favourable state, and business recovering.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

STILL the war lies heavily on the issue of new books, and the last month's list is even less abundant and various than its predecessor. The concluding volumes of that portion of the *Grenville Papers* published as *Memoirs of the Courts and Cabinets of George III.* have appeared. Sir William Domville has published, in a volume entitled *The Sabbath*, an enquiry into the supposed obligation to the sabbaths of the Old Testament. Mr. John James Tayler has collected a series of pulpit discourses on *Christian Aspects of Faith and Duty*. From a Roman Catholic writer of America, Mr. J. G. Shea, we have received a *History of the Catholic Missions among the Indian Tribes of the United States* from 1529 to 1851. Mrs. Marsh has written a novel called the *Heiress of Houghton*, which appears to be the sequel of one of her former novels. A second part of the Nature-Printed work on *British Ferns*, under Dr. Lindley's editorship, has been published. A fourth volume of *Chaucer* has been given in Mr. Bell's Annotated Edition of the Poets. *The Roman Empire in the West* forms the subject of four lectures collected by Mr. Richard Congreve. Mr. Brudenell Carter has discussed the *Influence of Education on Diseases of the Nervous System*. Lord Ormonde has translated a small volume of *Meditations and Moral Sketches*, by M. Guizot. Mr. Planché has published the first careful and complete translation of the celebrated *Fairy Tales of the Countess d'Audrey*. Sir James Emerson Tennent has discussed, in a book of highly entertaining statistics, *Wine, its Use and Taxation*. Doctor Macvicar has published a Treatise on *The Philosophy of the Beautiful*. Major John Butler has described his *Travels and Adventures in the Province of Assam during Fourteen Years*. Mr. J. W. Kaye has made valuable *Selections from the Papers of Lord Metcalfe*. Lieutenant Peard has published his *Narrative of a Campaign in the Crimea*. An historical account of the adventures of the most famous pirates and buccaneers, under the title of the *Monarchs of the Main*, has been written by Mr. George Thornbury. Mr. Conybeare has collected his *Essays Ecclesiastical and Social*, written in the "Edinburgh Review." Mr. Weld has described a *Vacation Tour in the United States and Canada*. A thick little volume called the *Calendar of Victory*, projected and commenced by the late Major Johns, of the Royal Marines, and continued and con-

pleted by Lieut. Nicolas of the same service, opportunely reminds us, in these days of war, that each day in the year has witnessed one or more triumphs of British valour and conquest by sea and land. *A Vindication of Luther against his Recent English Assailants*, which appeared originally as an appendix to one of Archdeacon Hare's charges, has been republished in a separate form, with many considerable additions from the papers of that lamented scholar and divine. The still surviving Indian practice of *Widow Burning* has been denounced by Mr. H. I. Bushby. Dr. Leonard Schmitz has published a condensed *Manual of Ancient History from the Remotest Times to the Overthrow of the Western Empire*. Doctor J. D. Forbes has described a scientific *Tour of Mont Blanc and of Monte Rosa*. Mr. Kempe, the Rector of St. James's, has collected a Course of Lectures on *Job*. Mr. David Constable has translated from the Latin and French the first volume of Dr. Jules Bond's annotated reproduction, from the original manuscripts, of the *Letters of John Calvin*. Mr. George MacDonald has published a dramatic poem, called *Within and Without*. Our friend the Roving Englishman has collected a series of *Pictures from the Battle Fields*. From Mr. Hannay we receive a sea novel called *Eustace Conyers*; from Miss Sewell a tale called *Cleve Hall*; and from its French proprietor the novel ascribed to Sir Walter Scott, *Moredun*, which has only to be read to clear the great novelist of all suspicion of its paternity. Mr. William Tooke has managed to include, in one octavo volume, brief records of the *Monarchy of France* from its earliest time to the last revolution. Mr. Richard Jennings has published a treatise on *National Elements of Political Economy*. Mr. Day has described *Monastic Institutions* in their various forms and tendencies. Captain Shadwell has published *Notes on the Management of Chronometers*. General Sir Wm. Napier has republished, from his great work on the Peninsular Campaigns, a condensed account of all the principal *English Battles and Sieges in the Peninsula*. Captain Biddulph has continued his *Topographical Sketches of the Ground before Sevastopol*. And Archdeacon Anthony Grant has added another to the many existing historical sketches of that great battle-ground on which the fate of nations promises in our day mainly to depend,—*The Crimea*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 19th inst., £16,647,716.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz. £3 17 9 | Silver bars, stan. per oz. 5 17
Dz., dust, " 3 16 0 Mexican dollars, " 5 0

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris 0·12 disct. | New York 0·07 disct.
Hamburg 0·64 disct.

Bank Rate of Discount, 4 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	91 <i>3</i>	88 <i>2</i>	91 <i>2</i> - <i>3</i>
Three per Cent. Reduced	90 <i>8</i>	86 <i>7</i>	90 <i>1</i> - <i>2</i>
New Three per Cent.	90 <i>7</i>	87 <i>5</i>	91 <i>1</i>
Long Annuitics, Jan., 1860	31 <i>6</i>	35	38
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	21 <i>1</i>	20 <i>8</i>	20 <i>9</i> - <i>10</i>
Exchequer Bills, March.	15 <i>s</i> p.	4 <i>s</i> p.	12 <i>1</i> - <i>5</i> p.
India Bonds	21 <i>s</i> p.	12 <i>s</i> p.	18-20 p.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	101	98 <i>1</i>	100-1	164,626
11 <i>6</i> 3	Blackwall	8	7 <i>3</i>	7 <i>2</i> - <i>3</i>	19,289
100	Caledonian	63 <i>4</i>	59 <i>1</i>	63 <i>1</i>	176,846
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	57	54	55-7	74,097
20	Eastern Counties	11 <i>3</i>	11 <i>1</i>	11 <i>1</i>	320,945
100	Gt. Sn. & Wn. (Irel.)	98	93	96-8	94,023
100	Great Northern	92	88 <i>4</i>	91-2	301,334
100	Great Western	67 <i>1</i>	63	66 <i>1</i> -7	367,627
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	79	75 <i>4</i>	78 <i>1</i> -3	297,333
100	London & N. Westn.	100 <i>2</i>	97	99 <i>1</i> -100 <i>1</i>	814,649
100	London & S. Westn.	84 <i>2</i>	79 <i>3</i>	82-3	191,048
100	Midland	71 <i>5</i>	68	71-4	391,976
100	South-East. & Dover	61 <i>5</i>	59 <i>4</i>	60 <i>4</i> -2	217,610

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.

RAILWAYS.	
Belgian 4 <i>1</i> per cent., 91 <i>3</i>	East Belgian Junct., 1 <i>1</i> ²
Brazilian 5 per cent., 99 <i>3</i>	Great Luxembourg, 2 <i>1</i> ²
Clitheroe 6 per cent., 102-4	Great West Canada, 21 <i>2</i>
Danish 5 per cent., 101-3	Northern of France, 35 <i>1</i>
Dutch 2 <i>1</i> per cent., 63 <i>2</i>	Norwegian Trunk Prof., 8 <i>1</i>
Dutch 4 <i>1</i> per cent., 93	Paris and Orleans, 47-9
Mexican 3 per cent., 29 <i>2</i>	Paris and Lyons, 42 <i>2</i>
Peruvian 3 per cent., 49-51	Paris and Rouen, 41-13
Portuguese 4 per cent., 41 <i>2</i>	West Flanders, 32-4
Russian 5 per cent., 99	West of France, 22 <i>3</i> -3
Spanish 3 per cent., 37 <i>3</i>	Rouen and Havre, 22-3
Sardinian 5 per cent., 88 <i>2</i>	

MINES.

Linares	7 <i>1</i>	Quartz Rock	1 <i>1</i>
Nouveau Monde	4 <i>2</i>	St. John Del Rey	31-3

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.

BANKS.	
Australian	3 <i>1</i> -1
Colonial Gold	4 <i>1</i> -1
Great Nugget	3 <i>1</i> -1
Port Phillip	4 <i>1</i> -1
South Australian	5 <i>1</i> -6

RAILWAYS.

East Indian	24 <i>1</i> -5	Australasian Pacific	7 <i>1</i>
Do., Extension 1 <i>1</i>	1 <i>1</i>	Australian Royal Mail	2 <i>1</i> -6
Indian Peninsula	5 <i>1</i>	Eastern Steam Navv.	
Madras	17-18	General Screw St. Ship	14 <i>1</i>

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural	5 <i>2</i> -4	North Brit. Australian	3 <i>1</i>
Van Diemen's Land	1 <i>1</i> -2	Peel River Land	2 <i>2</i> -3
South Australian Land	5 <i>2</i> -9 <i>2</i>	Scottish Austr. Invest.	13-2

THE HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE.

[MAY, 1855.]

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Apr. 21	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
28	68	4	31	5	25	10
May 5	69	5	31	6	26	9
— 12	73	4	31	10	26	11
— 19	70	1	32	5	27	9

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. d.	s. d.	L. s. l.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	64	to 72	Hay.... per load
Malting Barley	30	—31	3 15 to 5 5
Oats, best,	27	—30	Clover..... 4 5 — 6 6
Wheat, White,	77	—86	Straw
Flour—			1 4 — 1 8
Town made, per sck.	65	—70	Linsed cake, per ton, 10 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>
Country household	52	—60	to 12 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> ; Rape cake, ditto,
American, per bbl.	38	—44	7 <i>l.</i> ; Bones ditto, 4 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>
Indian Corn, per qr.	48	—52	Hors.—Kents, 24 <i>l.</i> to 30 <i>l.</i>
CATTLE—	s. d.	s. d.	Sussex, 22 <i>l.</i> to 24 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i>
Beasts, per st.	3	8 to 4	to 14 <i>l.</i> to 16 <i>s.</i>
Calves	3	8 — 4	4 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —6 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Ducks, 4 <i>l.</i>
Sheep	3	6 — 4	6 <i>s.</i> ; Geese, 3 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —6 <i>s.</i> ; Tur-
Pigs	3	4 — 4	kkeys, 3 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —6 <i>s.</i> ; Pigeons,
Wool, per lb.—			4 <i>l.</i> —9 <i>s.</i>
South Downs	1	0 — 1	HIDES, &c.—Market, 96 <i>lb.</i>
Kentish flocks	0	1 — 1	4 <i>l.</i> —5 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; do., 50 <i>lb.</i>
German Prima	2	6 — 3	3 <i>l.</i> —3 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; do., Calf-skins,
Australian	1	3 — 2	Horse-hides, 5 <i>lb.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; do., Horse-
Cape.....	0	7 — 1	hides, 5 <i>lb.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —6 <i>s.</i> ; Rough
Spanish	1	1 — 1	Tallow, 22 <i>s.</i>

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 12 <i>l.</i>
Iron, Pigs, 3 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i>
Rails, 6 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> Lead, English
Pig, 2 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> Steel, Swedish
Lead, 1 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> Tin, English
Block, 11 <i>l.</i> ; Banca, 11 <i>l.</i> to
11 <i>l.</i> ; Spelter, 22 <i>s.</i> ; Quick-
silver, per lb. 1 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>l.</i> to
1 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>l.</i>

PROVISIONS.

BACON, per ewt.—Irish, 5 <i>s.</i> to 6 <i>s.</i> ; American, 4 <i>s.</i> to 4 <i>l.</i>
BEF—Mid. to prime, per s. 8 <i>b.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Irish India, per tr., 16 <i>l.</i> ; Hambro', 17 <i>l.</i> ; American, 14 <i>l.</i> to 16 <i>l.</i>
BUTTER—Dorset, per ewt., 9 <i>l.</i> to 16 <i>l.</i> ; Irish, 9 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>l.</i> ; Dutch, 8 <i>l.</i> to 9 <i>l.</i>
CHEESE—Cheshire, per cwt., 6 <i>l.</i> to 7 <i>l.</i> ; Wiltshire, 5 <i>l.</i> to 7 <i>l.</i> ; Dutch, 6 <i>l.</i>
HAMS—York, 7 <i>l.</i> to 7 <i>l.</i> ; Irish, 7 <i>l.</i> to 7 <i>l.</i> ; Westphalia, 6 <i>l.</i> to 6 <i>l.</i>
MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per s. 8 <i>b.</i> to 16 <i>l.</i> ; Bedf. Regts., 10 <i>l.</i> to 13 <i>l.</i>
POTATOES, per ton, Scotch reds, 5 <i>l.</i> to 10 <i>l.</i> ; Bedf. Regts., 10 <i>l.</i> to 13 <i>l.</i>
POUR, per 8 <i>l.</i> , 3 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>l.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
VEAL, 4 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
LAMB, 6 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 7 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>

GROCERY.

COCOA, per cwt., Trinidad, 42 <i>s.</i> to 46 <i>s.</i> ; Bahia, 33 <i>s.</i> to 34 <i>s.</i>
COFFEE, per cwt.—Ceylon Native, 47 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 48 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Do., Plantation, 56 <i>s.</i> to 52 <i>s.</i> ; Mocha, 7 <i>s.</i> to 8 <i>s.</i> ; Jamaica, 7 <i>s.</i> to 8 <i>s.</i> ; Java, 5 <i>s.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i>
TALLOW—Australian Beef, 46 <i>s.</i> to 53 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>l.</i> ; Sheep, 47 <i>s.</i> to 52 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Y. C., 54 <i>s.</i>
RICINE—Carolina, duty paid, 26 <i>s.</i> to 36 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bengal, 13 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 15 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
SUGAR—Barbadoes, per cwt., 35 <i>s.</i> to 41 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Mauritius, 35 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 39 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bengal, 37 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 42 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Madras, 30 <i>s.</i> to 33 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Havannah, 35 <i>s.</i> to 39 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
DR. REFINED—Grocery lumps, 47 <i>s.</i> to 51 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Biscuits, 29 <i>s.</i> to 36 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Chocolate, 30 <i>s.</i>
TEA, per lb. (duty 1 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>)—Congou, 8 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> ; Souchong, 9 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Hyson, 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Assam, 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i>

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies	British America	United States	Other places	Total.
To March 31....	17,855	302	15,519	503	37,179
	4,987	4,282	16,297	198	25,764
Total	22,842	4,584	34,816	701	62,943

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS FOR SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cahin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 30 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£35 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £22	£2 10 <i>l.</i> to £3 5 <i>s.</i>
Sydney	40	65	22 — 35	2 5 — 2 10
Aldelaide	36	62	22 — 33	15 — 24
Hobart Tn.	36	65	22 — 35	2 5 — 2 15

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.] FROM THE 28TH MAY TO THE 27TH JUNE. [PRICE 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

Both HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT assembled on Monday, the 4th of June, after the Whitsuntide recess.

HOUSE OF LORDS. On Tuesday, June 5, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called attention to the convention entered into between her majesty's government and that of the Sultan, on the 3rd of February last, for the Employment of the Turkish Troops in the British Service. He asked what progress had been made in the formation of such a body of troops?—Lord PANMURE regretted the delay that had taken place in the formation of those troops, from which he hoped that the allied armies would receive much advantage. The fault did not lie with either her Majesty's government or the government of the Porte, but from the fact that the Turkish troops concentrated at Constantinople, and from which it was anticipated the Turkish contingent would be taken, had been suddenly called away by Omar Pasha to the seat of war, and all the available troops of the Sultan had been thus withdrawn. The Porte, therefore, readily offered to detach from the army of Omar Pasha a body of troops to form the contingent; but her Majesty's government declared that it was not advisable to weaken the strength of the army at the seat of war. It was therefore proposed, and the proposition was now being carried out, that troops to form the contingent should be withdrawn from the army of the Danube. This was a suggestion from Omar Pasha himself, and the arrangement of this body would soon be completed.

Lord LYNDHURST asked whether Lord Clarendon had received any intelligence of the Close of the Vienna Conferences, and if so, whether he was prepared to lay on the table the last proposal made to or by Russia?

—Lord CLARENDRON: I this morning received information from her Majesty's minister at Vienna that a conference was yesterday summoned by Count Buol, and that he then made a proposition to the Russian plenipotentiaries. I believe the Russian plenipotentiaries—I am speaking from a short despatch received by telegraph—requested to know whether they might send that proposal to St. Petersburg. Upon the French and English ministers being consulted, they said they had no instructions to agree to such a proceeding, and Count Buol then said that, having fulfilled the engagement undertaken by Austria—to endeavour to find the elements of accommodation between the contending parties—and having failed to discover such means of accommodation, he considered there was no further use in conferences being held; and the conferences were accordingly closed. With respect to the question as to whether the proposal which was made at the conference will be laid before parliament, I do not think there can be any objection to the production of that proposition.

The Newspaper Stamp Bill was read a third time and passed.

On Thursday, June 7, on the re-committal of the Cambridge University Bill, the LORD CHANCELLOR explained the various amendments which he proposed to introduce into the measure, the general effect of which may be described as intended to render the clauses for reforming the general body of the university of Cambridge in unison with those contained in the bill passed last year for the university of Oxford. In the case of dissenters, it was proposed that they should be allowed to proceed to the degree of masters of arts on

the understanding that such masters of arts were not to become members of the senate, unless they subscribed the thirty-nine articles.—Lord LYNDHURST observed, that the proposed amendments were of a nature to transform the bill altogether into a new measure. The house could have but one object in view, and that was to form the best possible constitution for the university of Cambridge. So far as the present governing body was concerned, all the commissioners recently appointed, with the exception of the Bishop of Chester, had reported most favourably of it.—The Bishop of CHESTER explained the circumstances under which he had declined to sign the report alluded to by Lord Lyndhurst.—Their lordships then went into committee on the bill, when Lord POWYS proposed an amendment to clause 5, to the effect that the masters of arts should stand in the same relation to the governing body of the university of Cambridge as the masters of arts in Oxford stood to the hebdomadal council.—After some discussion, the amendment was negatived.—The remaining clauses were then agreed to.

On Friday, June 8, the Bishop of LONDON, moved an address to the crown respecting the inadequate provision made for Burials in the Metropolis. The evil he complained of was much increased by the act of 1853, which closed many of the old burial grounds before others were provided. An immediate remedy for this deficiency was essentially requisite.—Earl GRANVILLE stated that the subject was under serious consideration by the government.—The Bishop of LONDON, on this intimation, withdrew his motion.

On Monday, June 11, on the motion of the Earl of DERBY, the question of the recent Creation of the Baronry of Fermoy, by the elevation of Mr. Roche to the peerage, was referred to a committee of privileges.

On Thursday, June 21, the Earl of MALMESBURY called attention to the late horrible Massacre of a Boat's Crew belonging to the Cossack while attempting to land some Prisoners on the Coast of Hango. According to the Russian account of this affair it was stated that they were compelled to resist the boat's crew in consequence of an attack made by the latter. Although that representation, if true, would greatly mitigate the atrocity of the deed, yet it by no means exculpated the Russian party from a complete breach of the sacred law of nations. He wished, therefore, to know what steps the government had taken under the circumstances?—The Earl of CLARENDRON said that the outrage was too horrible, and too much at variance with all the usages of war, and the custom of civilised nations, to suppose that it could be done by any persons but by some brutal subordinates, without any instructions or any approval of their superiors. He was the more inclined to believe so, because Captain Fanshawe said he considered that man who took the lead in the outrage was a non-commissioned officer. He lost not a moment in forwarding instructions to her Majesty's minister at Copenhagen, requesting him to confer with the Danish government, for inducing them forthwith to send instructions to their minister at St. Petersburg that her Majesty's government viewed with extreme anxiety the conduct of the Russian government in respect to this matter, and wished to know what steps they intended to take to mark their sense of this outrage by the condign punishment of the offenders—an outrage which might not

excite surprise in savage nations, but which could not be expected in a civilised nation. And that if this offence was not at once punished, her Majesty's government considered that it would merit the severest reprimand. When her Majesty's ministers had obtained the answer of the Russian government, they would of course be prepared to state what steps they would take to punish the culprits.—Lord GRANVILLE, although he expressed it as his opinion that this most wanton outrage would in the end be disavowed by the Russian government, hoped that the explanation would soon be given, for the feelings of indignation which must be excited by the transaction would necessarily tend to add still more to the horrors of war.—Lord COLchester recommended that a flag of truce should be sent in to communicate with the highest authority which could be found, demanding that the atrocity should be disowned.—Lord BROGRAM was not satisfied with a barren disclaimer. He called for punishment on the perpetrators of a deed so extraordinary and so cruel. If ever the land called for blood it was now.

On Friday, June 22, the Marquis of CLANRICARDE inquired whether the Baltic fleet had been provided with the *Apparatus necessary to attack Maritime Fortresses* in the manner recommended last year to the admiralty and the board of ordnance by Colonel Bethune.—Lord PANMURE said the suggestion of Colonel Bethune was one of those innumerable propositions which were made to all governments in a time of war, when any gentleman who pleased, and there were many who pleased, might suggest means for destroying the enemy. It was made to the admiralty in July last, and was referred to Sir Charles Napier, then in command of the Baltic fleet, who, after studying it carefully, said it might do all very well, "but we would require the gentleman himself to 'bell the cat'."—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE replied that Colonel Bethune had offered to "bell the cat" if he were permitted.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—On Monday, June 4, the adjourned debate on the *Prosecution of the War* was resumed. Sir Francis Baring's resolution stood no longer as an amendment on Mr. Disraeli's motion, but as the substantive motion, opposed by Mr. Lowe's amendment. Mr. MILNER GIBSON reviewed the progress of the last debate, and concurred in the opinion then expressed by Sir James Graham, that the views of Mr. Disraeli were more rational and more likely to lead to an early and honourable peace than those expressed by government. The question now before the house was the motion of Mr. Lowe, to which he must say "No." He had himself brought forward a proposition the converse of this, and as he had been charged with postponing it in consequence of an intrigue, he would now state that the responsibility of its postponement rested entirely on himself. He denied that the doctrines of the peace party had any influence in inducing the Emperor of Russia to go to war, and he assigned the articles that appeared in the leading journals as a much more probable cause of war. That war he understood to be undertaken for the defence of Turkey, and for that alone; but ghoulish phantoms were ever and anon conjured up as to the colossal power and the aggressive tendencies of Russia. The members of the government, it was plain, did not themselves believe in these phantoms, for in despatches recently laid before the house those ministers were lavish in their praise of the moderation and integrity of the Russian Emperor. The limitation of the Russian fleet was puerile, but to insist upon it, and to make a question so narrow the cause of a great war, was unheard of in the history of this country. He thought the Russian proposal was better for Turkey than ours, for he was satisfied that it was all in favour of the interests of Europe that the straits should be open to ships of war of all nations. Why should they not make the Black Sea as open to all nations as the Baltic? But it was a mistake to suppose the only danger to Turkey arose from Russia; the time had been when her independence and integrity were threatened from the west. It was not the first time Russia had interfered to protect Turkey from invasions secretly directed by a western power. He thought it

would be far better that they should allow matters to rest where they now were—existing aggression having been repelled, and we retaining the right to repel all aggression in future. As the conferences were now closed, and we were entering upon a new war of aggression, he asked the government to give some explicit declaration of the object for which the war was to be carried on. It could not be for glory—it could not be from fear of disgrace; he called upon the house then to pause well and consider before they committed themselves to a war for indefinite objects.—Sir W. MOLESWORTH said the question now before the house was, whether we ought or ought not to have made peace upon the Russian proposals. He denied that the objects of the war had yet been gained. In order to avoid war, the allies had lowered their demands on Russia to the lowest possible point; as that object had not been gained, but they were compelled to draw the sword, they were entitled to increase their demands. That right had repeatedly been asserted by Lord Aberdeen's government. The objects of the war, as he understood them, were to prevent the dangerous aggrandisement of Russia at the expense of Turkey, and to maintain the international law of Europe, by punishing Russia for her violation of it in the unjust invasion of the Danubian principalities. These objects were not to be attained by the Russian terms, which would require the allies to keep up a constant war establishment in the Mediterranean. Mr. Gladstone told them the other night they had got three-and-a-half out of the four points, and asked what they were now quarrelling about? He would reply that they were quarrelling about that very thing without which all the rest were valueless—the destruction of Russian preponderance in the Black Sea. He agreed with him in defending the Crimean expedition. But he never concealed from himself that that expedition committed them irretrievably to a contest with Russia, from which there was no middle course between an inglorious retreat and the destruction of Sebastopol. Her late concessions were only the effects of fear, and intended to create a Russian party in that house. His own impression was that peace on the terms suggested by Mr. Gibson would be a confession of defeat on the part of the allies, and would immeasurably enhance the reputation of Russia. It would endanger the alliance, and would be a heavy blow to the interests of western civilisation. Such a recreant peace would make every Englishman blush, and would cause every colonist to be ashamed of the pusillanimity of the mother-country.—Mr. J. M'GREGOR insisted that no peace should be concluded till Sebastopol was destroyed and till Russia made full indemnity to the allies for the expenses of the war.—Lord DUNGRANVAN made his maiden speech in support of a war policy.—Lord ELCHO was anxious to mark his dissent from the sentiments expressed in the speech of Mr. Gladstone, a speech which he deeply regretted, as he believed the country would accept it as a sufficient explanation of the blunders that had occurred, and would consider "lukewarm" as the reason of "too late," but which he regretted still more because he believed it would tend indefinitely to postpone the prospects of peace, which Mr. Gladstone seemed so anxious to attain. He maintained there was great danger in Russian power unless it was checked in time; and the propositions commended by Mr. Gibson were intended not to check Russian power, but to leave it as it was. He was in favour of the government propositions, which, he believed, contained the principle of limiting Russian power. But for himself he believed that the road to a secure peace lay through Sebastopol. Therefore, though it gave him the greatest pain to separate himself from his friends on this question, yet he was prepared to leave the question in the hands of the government, believing that they would not continue the war a moment longer than was necessary to secure a lasting peace.—Sir E. B. LYNTON reminded Mr. Gibson that the sentiment of honour which might be given up by an individual was essential to the existence of a nation. And he could not believe that the honour of England would be kept unstained if we were now to accept terms of peace which Turkey herself would indignantly reject. Mr. Gibson and some others were consistent, for they had always opposed the war. But

he could not understand how any members of the government which commenced the war should suddenly assume the language of the Peace Society. He examined at some length the propositions of Russia, and contended that they were more dangerous to Turkey than was the state of things before the war began. He did not dispute that the allied propositions were also inadequate, and he thought all this proved how fortunate it was that the conferences were broken off. But, before coming to that point, he would press upon the advocates of the Russian terms to consider what they were doing. Every speech delivered in that strain served to nerve the Russian arms, and to encourage Russian resistance. What could Russia infer from these propositions, supported by names of such high influence in the country, but that they foresaw the speedy exhaustion of English resources, and the relaxing of English vigour. He did not question the patriotism of these gentlemen, but it did seem to him that they were serving the cause of the enemy. Coming to the resolutions before the house, he could not properly support either of them. He objected to the amendment of Mr. Lowe, that it was not only an interference with the prerogative of the crown, but that it was a needless interference with the free action of this house. With regard to the future policy of the war, he recommended the government to use less supplicating language to Austria; to leave her alone, and we should speedily bring her to us on our own terms. He strongly deprecated a war of nationalities, which he objected to not because it would establish republics, but because he was sure this government would be unable to establish in liberty the promises it wrote in blood. Let us (said Sir E. Bulwer in conclusion) adhere rigidly to the objects for which we commenced the war—the maintenance of the independence and integrity of Turkey, with such guarantees as statesmen might project, and victory enable us to accomplish. As to the means by which those securities were to be obtained, that was not the affair of the House of Commons. The strategy of the war must rest with the allied cabinets, whose plans must be executed by councils of war. But though the end of the war should be purely protective, it was impossible that the means employed should be purely defensive. If we would drive Russia into our terms, we must cripple her where she could be crippled. It was true, as had been said in the course of the debate, that we could not crush the power of Russia in Russia. But when she pretended to be more than Russia, we could and must deprive her of the means by which she sought to overleap the tangible barriers which separated from Europe a power which united the arts of Machiavelli to the armies of France. In that sense we could and would, by the blessing of heaven, crush the power of Russia to invade and destroy Turkey. Mr. Gibson had sought to alarm them by dwelling on the infinite duration of the war. But the war would not be long if we would only be in earnest, and would limit ourselves strictly to the pursuit of its legitimate objects. In these days war was money, and it was impossible for any nation to sustain a long war with a short purse. The resources of Russia were now being fast exhausted. There was no country in which recruiting was so costly, or in which it imposed so severe a burden upon the owners of the soil by taking away their serfs, and by restricting commercial intercourse, and thus preventing the replacement of capital. She might dissemble to the last. But peace would come suddenly and knock loudly for admission at that door which we had not closed against peace, but against a felonious counterfeit, which would steal through disguised under her garments, and with a concealed sword in her hand. Mr. Gladstone had talked of the verdict of history upon the transactions now passing around us. Allow me (said Sir Edward) to anticipate the verdict which history will pronounce. Allow me to suppose that the time will come when some philanthropist will ask what service we in our generation have conferred on the human race—suppose he were some one trained in the schools of Oxford or the institutes of Manchester. It might be said that there was a power commanding an army as numerous as the hordes of Xerxes; embodying all the forces of barbarism, and lying upon the outskirts of civilisation; left there to develop her own

internal resources, unmolested by any state, though all dreaded her power and policy. Long pent up by nature in her own legitimate domains, she ever strove for an outlet to gratify her ambition. She crept to her object by the dissimulating guise of successive treaties, which promised peace, but graduated spoliation by the opportunities of war. At length, upon pretexts too gross to deceive the common sense of mankind, that power proceeded to break through the limits which had hitherto confined her. Then I trust, sir, that the historian will say that in our generation we, the united families of England and France, made ourselves the vanguard of an alarmed and shrinking Europe, and did not sheathe the sword until we had redeemed the pledge which we had given to humanity on the faith of two christian sovereigns, and had obtained the objects which justice and liberty require.—The LORD ADVOCATE concurred in almost every sentiment expressed by Sir E. L. Bulwer. He thought the peace party were to blame for the origin of this war; and when Mr. Gibson attributed the origin of the war to the articles of the press, which persuaded Russia that there would be no cordial union between England and France, he forgot that this was really an admission that Russia was only waiting for an opportunity to attack Turkey. He then at some length defended the policy of the government.—The debate was adjourned till the next day.

On Tuesday, June 5, the debate was resumed by Mr. COBDEN, who, after clearing away certain preliminary objections to the course which he and his party had taken upon this question, declared that they had dealt with the honest interests of England, and he maintained that its just interests were in harmony with the interests of the whole world. He expressed his astonishment at the speech of Sir W. Molesworth; he had never heard, he said, a speech so utterly at variance with all the previous declarations of the speaker. He excepted to Sir W. Molesworth's statement of the question, which really was, he insisted, whether the plan proposed by the government was the best and only plan that could be devised, and whether the difference between the plan proposed by Russia and that proposed by our government was such as to warrant the recommencement of the war. He compared the two proposals, pointing out what he conceived to be the shortsighted policy which had dictated the terms offered to Russia, and which might be detected, he said, in the protocols. He urged the apparent inconsistency between the language of Lord J. Russell in that house and at Vienna, and that Lord John had misapprehended the bias of public opinion in Germany with regard to the war, to which he believed it was adverse. If the English people had the conscription, as in Prussia, they would be a little more chary how they called out for war. After the treaties which had confined Russia to her own territories, why not have contented ourselves with sending our fleet to the Black Sea, and refusing to enter upon land operations until the great powers of Germany were willing and ready to join us, instead of taking upon ourselves to fight the battle of civilisation for the whole world? What were we now fighting for? To reduce, it was said, the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. But that preponderance resulted from her commerce and her vast shipments of produce there, and, so long as these continued, all the powers on earth could not take it away. Germany had been detached from us; what might be the consequence if, by and by, it should be proved that the war was opposed to the inclination of the government and people of France? After a highly unfavourable review of the prospects of the ensuing campaign in the Crimea, Mr. Cobden contended that the war had been recommenced upon a point of difference almost infinitely minute; that the invasion of Russia by a land force was an infatuation; that we had attempted too much; and, in obedience to a cry out of doors, had undertaken a task more difficult than any nation had ventured upon before. He blamed the government for having played falsely and treacherously, and warned them that there would be a heavy reckoning for them hereafter.—Mr. COLLIER supported the amendment of Mr. Lowe.—Lord H. VANE looked with great apprehension at a continuance of the war, and, if a favourable occasion offered, he hoped the govern-

ment would take advantage of it, in order to conclude a peace honourable to us and not humiliating to Russia.—Sir S. NORTHCOTE said he was prepared to vote against the amendment of Mr. Lowe.—Major REED, on the other hand, would support that amendment, because it would carry out most fully what he believed was the desire of the people—the vigorous prosecution of the war.—Mr. EWART, as an earnest friend of peace, believed the time had come for vigorous action, and that such a course was not contrary to the principles of peace, but, in existing circumstances, was highly favourable to them.—Sir J. GRAHAM said that he must appeal to the generosity of the house, since the opinions he was about to express were not in accordance with those of the majority. He had been of opinion, and he still retained it, that the war was just and necessary, and the real question at issue was, had the objects for which the war was undertaken been obtained, or did the conferences at Vienna afford a fair ground of probability that the means of obtaining these objects did not exist. He wished to know from the government—first, what was the proposition lately made by Austria which England had rejected; and, secondly, whether, in their opinion, the four points were still regarded as the basis of any future arrangements with Russia, or whether these points had been abandoned, and fresh terms were to be offered. He did not deny that during a war it was perfectly legitimate to vary the terms of peace; but the object of the war should be kept steadily in view, and should not vary with the incidents of the war. The avowed, and he considered, the sole object of this war was the maintenance of the independence and integrity of Turkey. He agreed that it was not politic to humble an adversary by force of arms, and he proceeded to state what were the original demands of Russia, and to contrast them with the concessions she was willing to make at the conferences, insisting that this alteration of tone had been gained by force of arms. The test of the concessions was, in his opinion, well laid down by Lord J. Russell, when he said that in a treaty of peace the honour of the adversary should be consulted. Sir James reviewed and commented upon the discussions at the conferences. He acknowledged that he was a party to the proposition for limiting the Russian naval power in the Black Sea; but he was bound to state that it was never regarded by him as an *ultimatum*; that it was not accepted by France as an *ultimatum*, and that it was not proposed at Vienna by France or England as an *ultimatum*; and the result of the discussion in that house had convinced him that as an *ultimatum* it was not tenable. On the other hand, he considered the Russian proposition contained the elements of an adjustment. Although not the friend of Russia, he contended that the honour of Russia must be considered—that she must not be pushed to the wall; and, esteeming the restoration of peace one of the greatest blessings that could be conferred upon this country, he deeply regretted that any opportunity should be lost.—Lord J. RUSSELL said the observations made during the debate upon the negotiations, and particularly the remarks of Mr. Cobden, rendered it incumbent upon him to offer some explanation. He accordingly went once more cursorily over the proceedings of the conferences, vindicating as he proceeded the part he took in them against the criticisms of Mr. Cobden. With reference to the third point, he maintained that the only mode of causing the cessation of the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea was by diminishing her naval forces there; and although it had been said that the plan would be ineffectual, he was of a different opinion, because he believed that, if the Russian government began building more ships in the Euxine, the suspicions of Europe would be roused. With respect to the very serious question—namely, if we were forced to continue the war by finding the only terms that would provide a security for the Turkish empire refused, what was now the object of the war? His answer to this question must be a general one, that the object still was the security of Turkey against Russia, and to obtain some material guarantee for the peace of Europe against the aggression of that power. The particular mode must depend, as it had been already said, upon the events of the war. It would be

presumptuous to point out now what other terms of peace we, in conjunction with our allies, should think it necessary to demand; but this object had been secured even by the abortive negotiations—namely, that Turkey would be considered one of the powers of Europe, forming part of the system of the balance of power, and that her independence and integrity would be recognised.—The debate was adjourned till Thursday.

On Wednesday, June 6, the debate on Mr. Spooner's motion for leave to bring in a bill to *Repeal the Maynooth Grant*, which stood adjourned from May 1, was resumed by Mr. Serjeant O'BRIEN, who opposed the measure, contending that the Maynooth endowment had been granted by Sir R. Peel after deliberate discussion as an act of justice, and for purposes that were satisfactorily fulfilled.—Mr. WHITESIDE examined at great length the educational system practised in Maynooth, as it was exhibited in the report of the commissioners, and by other authorities. That system he pronounced to be vicious in itself and un-English in the principles which it inculcated among the students.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for Ireland controverted many of the statements hazarded by Mr. Whiteside, especially such as related to the predominance of priestly influence, and the alleged monopoly of public offices in Ireland by the Roman Catholics.—Mr. T. CHAMEERS traced many of the evils and disorders that had arisen of late years in Ireland to the existence of Maynooth.—The debate was again postponed to the 27th inst.

On Thursday, June 7, the adjourned debate on the subject of the War was resumed by Mr. ROEBUCK, who stated the reasons why he considered that the war should be proceeded with vigorously, so as to obtain an honourable peace. He adverted to the opinions expressed by Sir J. Graham, observing that he was curious to know what had occurred between the time of that right hon. baronet's leaving office, up to which he had advocated war, and the time when he had become an advocate of peace. When an appeal was made to this country last year on the ground that the independence of Europe was threatened by Russia, by whom was that appeal more heartily made than by Sir J. Graham? "We all recollect," said Mr. Roebuck, "when the war-trumpet was sounded, how the right hon. gentleman blew into it. We all recollect the speeches at the Reform Club, and at the Mansion-house. It was said then that the war which we were about to wage was to be a war of freedom against slavery, of civilisation against barbarism, of constitutional government against despotism. It was said that the attempt of Russia to enslave Turkey was her first step towards enslaving Europe, that she was not intent simply upon swallowing up Turkey, but that her design was, by placing herself in Constantinople, and assuming to herself the rights of the Turkish empire, to obtain a dominion over Europe. It was not merely that an insolent embassy had been sent to Constantinople, that Russia had crossed the boundaries of the Turkish empire, that we were told that there was a standing threat against Europe, and that it was necessary, for the safety of Europe, that Russia should be crippled and her power of offence taken away. It was not Turkey simply that we were called on to protect, but Europe, civilisation, and the liberties of mankind. Well, we went to war, and disasters followed." Mr. Roebuck then recapitulated the circumstances attendant on the fall of Lord Aberdeen's government, and said that Sir J. Graham remained in the government constructed by Lord Palmerston until the discussion arose respecting the appointment of the Sebastopol committee, when he retired. "These circumstances," said Mr. Roebuck, "I point out because they are the most significant circumstances which occurred between the time when the right hon. gentleman advocated the war and the time when he advocates peace; and I ask him, and I ask the house, what has happened since to make him a peace advocate? It was quite clear, when he joined Lord Palmerston's government, that this committee of inquiry would go on; it was as certain that motions would be made in this house involving the consideration of the conduct of the war. The right hon. gentleman being a prominent member of Lord Aberdeen's government, we have a right to consider that everything done and said by that government

was done and said by the right hon. gentleman himself. When the expedition to the Crimea was propounded by the government—for it was propounded by the government, and not by the generals—the Duke of Newcastle wrote a despatch to Lord Raglan, in which he said that there could be no peace for Europe until Sebastopol was taken and destroyed. That was the statement made by the government, and for that statement I hold the right hon. gentleman responsible. When the conferences at Vienna ended—I don't mean the day before yesterday—but when they ended in reality, before that sham scene was enacted in this house, had Sebastopol then fallen? I will allow that the Russian fleet had been destroyed, but suppose that at that moment we had made peace—I ask this house, and I ask every thinking man, what would have been the result of such a proceeding? Would it not have been the universal opinion in the East that England and France had been conquered: would it not have been the general opinion there that the fleets and armies of France and England had retired with disgrace and discredit; would it not have been plain to the smallest tribe in the East that we had left the Crimea because we could not take Sebastopol, and because we could not obtain the objects for which the war was entered into? Yet this is the conduct which the right hon. gentleman asks us to pursue. Suppose we had made peace, as the right hon. gentleman would have had us, would Europe have been safe—would the Turkish empire have been safe? True it is that the Russian army had retired beyond the Pruth—that it had evacuated the Principalities—but what security have we that in two years afterwards she would not have been across the Danube again? What does the house think of the political morality which would recommend us to undertake a war to obtain such paltry ends as those with which the right hon. gentleman is satisfied? The right hon. gentleman is one of those who cannot plead unwariness in the resolutions he takes. What he does he does with great deliberation. I don't say that he always acts prudently; but that, if he acts imprudently, it is with his eyes open. It was with his eyes thus open that he undertook this war; and for what did he induce the people of England to leave their peaceful avocations, and sacrifice their blood and treasure? Was it simply that the Russian should retire beyond the Pruth, keeping all his armies and his power intact and as great as ever, and with the reputation of England and France reduced? That is all we would have obtained by following the right hon. gentleman's advice. We should, indeed, have had a peace, but a dishonourable peace, and our power would have been weaker than when we entered into the war." Mr. Roebuck then adverted to Lord J. Russell's language at the Vienna conferences, and said, "A minister of England really understanding the position of his country and the part that Austria was playing, would have whispered in the ear of the latter power talismanic words which, when I name them, I know will rouse the voice of members of this house against me. But I am as sure as I am of my own existence that the time will come when the three words which I would have mentioned to Austria shall be the watchwords of freedom and the forerunners of good government in Europe. The words I mean are 'Poland, Hungary, Italy.' It may be said that I am now arousing nationalities. Sir, I take the part of nationalities against despots always; and I believe that Austria, if these words had been whispered in her ear, would have understood her position, and would not have played fast and loose as she has done with the people of this country and of France, but would have trembled before the spirit that would have been conjured up before her at the sound of those names. I know what I incur by the statement I now make, but although, feeble as I am, I cannot maintain as I would wish the belief that I put forth, yet I am strong in the conviction that these three words are talismans to Europe." Mr. Roebuck concluded by expressing the hope that "as we entered into this war, so we shall continue it—that we shall be firm, bold, straightforward—that what we gain we shall in no self-denying spirit unwarily give up—that in the cause of civilisation against barbarism, of Europe against Russia, what we acquire honestly by our arms we shall maintain

firmly by the same means—that, our object being to cripple Russia, what we take we shall keep. These are significant phrases, and I mean them to be such. To cripple Russia, we are not to consider her honour, but we are to consider mankind as our allies in the struggle, and that in crippling Russia we are fighting the battle of mankind, and benefiting the whole human race."—Mr. S. HERBERT defended the course adopted by the ex-ministers, and urged that they had supported and aided in carrying on hostilities under the belief that the war was strictly defensive, and were justified in opposing it now that its character was changed. After adverting to the confusion of ideas and conflict of opinions on the subject of the war, he argued that the objects for which we first engaged in the conflict were sufficiently attained, and commented upon the absurdity of prolonging the struggle merely for the purpose of humbling a power whom we were still inviting to become once more our friend. Contending that the successes obtained against Russia had been undervalued, while our own disasters were exaggerated, Mr. Herbert remarked that if now some splendid triumph were achieved in the field, the country, in the fulness of its satisfaction, would accept a peace without examining the conditions too closely. He referred to incidents in the campaign of last year, and read extracts from despatches to prove that he had not been idle or indifferent while in office, and then proceeded to analyse the propositions presented at the Vienna conferences, with the view of showing that they contained the elements of a safe and honourable peace.

—Mr. DRUMMOND confessed to a change of opinion, but in a reverse direction to that experienced by the late secretary at war. Having begun by deprecating war, he now felt convinced that we must continue to prosecute it. Proceeding to criticise the conduct of ministers, the professed objects of the war, and the opinions propounded by different members, he found proof of incompetence, futility, and inability on all sides. Whatever might be the fortunes of the conflict in detail, he believed that the inevitable result of the war would be to destroy Mahometanism, and to leave the French masters of Constantinople.—Mr. BRIGHT complained that, under the secret system of diplomacy, the house was debarred from the discussion of many important questions until events had been decided, and the time for useful interference gone by. This he observed had been the case last year, and at present. They were not allowed to discuss the war until it was proclaimed, or the conferences until they were concluded. Peace, he argued, should be advocated by those who believed that the objects of the war had been attained, as well as those who considered them not worth attainment at the cost of bloodshed. Examining the ostensible purpose of the war, as explained in the speeches of ministers, the hon. member contended that nothing definite could be elicited. We did not fight for nationalities, nor for conquest, nor for any serious destruction of the Russian power. The only practical object presented to us was the security of Turkey, and this it was confessed by the government themselves could not be absolutely, but only conditionally obtained. He then argued, and decided in the affirmative, the question whether the basis on which Russia proposed to settle the "third point" offered the means of such conditional security. On the other hand, the demand of a limitation of the Russian armaments in the Euxine was humiliating to Russia and ineligible as a principle of pacification. Even if the propositions of the allies were somewhat preferable to those of Russia, was the difference, he asked, worth the sacrifices and the bloodshed consequent upon a continuance of the war? On all accounts he denied that the government were justified in breaking off the conferences upon such considerations, and declared that they had proved themselves guilty of rash and inexcusable recklessness. Mr. Bright afterwards enlarged upon the serious consequences which war was entailing on the country in the exhaustion of its resources, and the enhancement debt and taxation. At present we were spending 75 millions a year more than sufficed to carry on the government of the United States, our nearest rival in commercial competition. If the war lasted six years, as anticipated by Sir W. Molesworth, we should have a burden of 450 millions to embarrass us in the race. Declaring that he had no confidence in

the administration generally, he referred to the speeches and conduct of the principal members of the cabinet in succession to show that they did not deserve his confidence individually.—The debate was again adjourned till next evening.

On Friday, June 8, the adjourned debate was resumed and concluded.—The Hon. F. SCOTT censured the government for their reticence, and declared his belief that the house ought to have interfered at an earlier period to inspire or to control the administration.—Sir F. BARING explained the motives which had led him to frame the amendment which was now under discussion. In it he had abstained from giving expression to any opinion concerning the conduct of the government, believing that the time for judgment on that question was not come. Circumstances had, however, changed since his proposition was drawn up, and he was, therefore, perfectly willing to alter its terms, or withdraw it altogether, if any substitute should be proposed by which the great issue at stake—namely, the prosecution of the war—could be definitely presented for discussion and decision.—The ATTORNEY - GENERAL supported his government.—Mr. CARDWELL objected to Mr. LOWE's amendment, and gave his ready assent to that of Sir Francis Baring. Deprecating “inflammatory periods,” and urging the house to guard only against real dangers which the conduct of our enemies has made manifest, he advised every Englishman to give his cordial support to the sovereign and her ministers, be they who they may, for the effectual prosecution of the war.—Mr. WALPOLE, regretting that negotiations had been broken off in a hasty moment, and showing a leaning to the Russian proposals, impressed on the government the necessity of stating the objects of the war. The uncertain and ambiguous conduct of the government had given rise to the most extravagant expectations. But if they would submit to parliament a plain intelligible and definite object, he would support them therein. For he entirely agreed with the government, that the war was just and necessary; so just that they ought not to have avoided it if they could, and so necessary that they could not have avoided it even if they would.—After Mr. HORSMAN had defended the course of the government, Mr. DISRAELI made a long speech. He revived the accusation of ambiguous language and uncertain conduct; proposed to settle the Eastern question by converting the Principalities into a neutral state; argued that Turkey was threatened with the least danger from the Black Sea; complained of the way in which the government had treated the house; and promised that neither himself nor his friends would vote for Sir Francis Baring's amendment.—Lord PALMERSTON closed the debate. He showed the position in which the several opponents of the government stood, and the weakness of the course which each one proposed; and made a direct appeal to the common patriotic feeling of members in support of the crown and government, to carry through a struggle necessary for the interest and honour of the country. He reminded the house, that the peace-at-all-prize men were the only members who had introduced bitterness and passion into an important and gravely-conducted debate. He showed how useless the first of the Russian propositions would be, and how Turkey already possesses the privileges which the second pretended to concede. He said that Sir Francis Baring having framed upon the basis of Mr. Disraeli's decapitated resolution almost exactly such a one as government would have taken the initiative in proposing, he foresaw that a large majority would rally to vote for that resolution, as a means of enabling the government to give effect to the wishes of the parliament and the country in carrying out the object of the war. That object, he said, was to prevent “the partition of Turkey” by a gigantic power, which would stride like a colossus from the Baltic to the Mediterranean; and in so doing, not only to protect the Sultan, but that very trade of Manchester and our manufacturing districts which Russia prohibits and Turkey enlarges. “I trust (said Lord Palmerston in conclusion) that party feeling will for one night be set aside; that as it is no longer a conflict of party—the vote a fortnight ago having silenced that question—we shall, at least for one night and upon one occasion, be unanimous in our

assurances to the crown that we are determined, as the true representatives of the people of this great country, to give to her Majesty the best support we can in the prosecution of the war to the attainment of a safe and honourable peace.”—Mr. LOWE's amendment was put, and negatived without a division.—When the amendment of Sir Francis Baring was put, Mr. LOWE said that he should not vote.—Mr. WALPOLE said, although the motion was unnecessary, yet, thinking that they ought to be unanimous, he should support it.—Mr. GLADSTONE agreed with every word of the resolution, while he thought it was beneath the occasion: but it was a choice of evils—the house should be unanimous on a question of war.—Sir Francis Baring's resolution was then agreed to.

On Monday, June 11, the debate on the second reading of Sir John Pakington's *Education Bill*, adjourned from the 2nd of May, was resumed.—Mr. ADDERLEY replied to Mr. Henley; and supported Sir John Pakington's bill, except as regarded the clauses providing for new schools. Mr. Henley called the present system a voluntary self-supporting system; but if it is so, what need is there for the annual vote of 300,000*l.* from the state, and another 300,000*l.* in forced loans obtained by the begging exertions of the clergy? The fact is, that the present plan is a system of private patronage aided by government patronage. Public rating, it is said, would pauperise the old system: but rates are raised for parks, museums, and the lighting of streets and highways with gas, and none of these public works bear the stamp of pauperism; why, then, a rate for education? The present system does not provide education for the children of the poor, and is not adapted to its object, that of supplying industrial instruction to an industrial population. Hence the children of the labouring classes do not generally attend the schools. But if the education given fitted them for their future life, as it does in the Cornish schools, there would be no difficulty in procuring the willing attendance of pupils. Rejecting Mr. Gibson's bill altogether, Mr. Adderley held that the bills of Lord John Russell and Sir John Pakington contained the elements of a satisfactory settlement of the question, which a select committee might work out.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON replied to Mr. Henley's speech. He showed that with regard to the proportion of children at school in this and other countries, while he had quoted official documents supplied to him by the ministers of Austria, Holland, and Denmark, Mr. Henley had quoted “from a book in the library of the house;” that especially in comparing the number of children at school in England and in Austria, Mr. Henley had set the Austrian returns of 1846 against our census returns of 1851,—whereas, if he had compared the returns of the two countries in the same year, he would have seen that there were only 684,000 children not in school in Austria, where there were 1,000,000 in England. Sir John had said, that in eight metropolitan parishes, out of 110,419 children, 47,532 were not at school at all; but Mr. Henley took no notice of this statement. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth and Mr. Ruddock protested against the construction placed on their opinions by Mr. Henley. To show he was correct in stating that vast deficiencies of education really exist, Sir John quoted the Reverend Mr. Mitchell, an inspector of schools, the Reverend Mr. Clay of Preston, the chaplain of Sussex gaol, and several other authorities. In defending his rating proposition and vindicating its necessity, he quoted official documents making out that schools are shut up for want of funds, and that the burden of the expense in many cases falls heavily on the clergyman. But, it was said, the bill does not touch the real defect of the present system, the non-attendance of the children. The answer is that fuller attendance can only be obtained by improving the quality of the instruction; the cause of non-attendance is the general badness of the schools; and as the bill does provide for improved schools, indirectly it provides for better attendance. Touching on some other points in the same manner,—as the religious question, and local boards for the regulation of expense,—Sir John said he trusted that the present constitution of the committee of council would be changed, and that it would be converted into a recognised department of the state, repre-

sented in the House of Commons by a minister able to give authoritative answers to questions put to him upon a subject of education. "The question (Sir John said in conclusion) involves not mere considerations of a social or religious character, but it involves a great political question; for, at a time when it is expected that at no distant period there will be an extension of the franchise, it is of the utmost importance to fit those persons who will be called on to exercise the suffrage, to perform the duties they will be called upon to discharge."—On the motion of Mr. Ewart the debate was again adjourned.

On Tuesday, June 12, Mr. BROWN brought forward a series of resolutions in favour of a *Decimal Coinage*. He recommended the issue in addition to the present florin, of a silver coin representing the hundredth part of a pound, to be called a cent, and a copper coin representing the thousandth part of a pound, to be called a mil.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER opposed the resolutions. He objected to the issue of the cent as a silver coin, because it would be too small, and as a copper coin, because it would be too large. There was also an objection to the mil as a coin too small for ordinary use. In addition to this, there was the difficulty of adjusting the existing taxation to the proposed change. He believed if this measure were adopted, the coins might be struck at the Mint, but they would never pass into general circulation. He believed, however, that Mr. Brown only wanted to have this question discussed without committing himself to details, and for his part he promised to give the matter every attention, but he could not agree to bind the house or the government at present by a solemn vote on this question.—Mr. BROWN intimated that he would omit that part of his resolution which related to the new coins, and only express an opinion that the decimal system as initiated by the issue of the florin had been eminently successful and satisfactory.—Mr. HEADLAM contended that a resolution so limited was valueless.—Lord PALMERSTON also hoped Mr. Brown would withdraw his resolutions altogether. If he did not, he must oppose him.—The house divided on the resolution as limited by Mr. Brown, when the resolution was carried against the government by a majority of 135 to 56.

On Wednesday, June 13, on the motion for going into Committee on Lord R. Grosvenor's *Sunday Trading Bill*: Mr. MASSEY moved to postpone the committee till that day three months. The bill, he said, would have a mischievous effect in aggravating the evil it attempts to put down. Such was the opinion of Sir Richard Mayne. The working classes are unable to make purchases until Sunday morning; if they were paid on Friday, it would lead to dissipation and idleness. He characterised the bill as a one-sided measure, since it would not affect the pleasures of the rich, and anomalous, since it was not extended to the whole country. A long and rather sharp debate ensued; in the course of which, Lord Stanley, Mr. Ker Seymour, Sir George Grey, and Mr. Barrow supported the motion; while Mr. W. J. Fox, Mr. Thomas Duncombe, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Maguire, Sir Joshua Walmsley, Mr. Bentinck, and Mr. Wilkinson, stoutly opposed it.—On a division, the House decided to go into committee, by 158 to 51. But the opposition was renewed on the first clause; and before the chairman was ordered to report progress, there were no fewer than five divisions in committee. One was taken on the question whether the sale of milk, a perishable article, should be prohibited between the hours of nine, a.m. and one, p.m.; and it was decided that it should, by 133 to 69. A proposal to substitute "eleven o'clock" for nine o'clock was negatived by 107 to 100. A third division arose on the clause prohibiting the sale of newspapers after ten, a.m.—It was proposed by Lord J. MANNERS to leave out the word "ten," for the purpose of inserting "nine"; but negatived, by 53 to 169. Mr. DUNCOMBE immediately moved that the words "in the morning" be omitted, and the words "in the afternoon" be inserted; so that no newspaper might be sold after ten at night. This was negatived by 159 to 61.—Mr. CRAUFORD then proposed that newspapers might be sold after two in the afternoon: negatived by 140 to 62.—The Chair-

man reported progress and the committee was ordered to sit again on the 4th July.

On Friday, June 15, Mr. LAYARD brought forward his resolutions on *Administrative Reform*. In a speech of three hours' duration, he took up one by one the principal heads of the subject,—the government, a close monopoly of a few families; the army, where promotion goes by purchase and favouritism instead of by merit; the consular and diplomatic services, which he criticised with much severity; and the civil service,—in treating of which he quoted abundantly from Mr. Romilly, Sir Charles Trevelyan, and others, and recommended a competitive examination for admissions. In treating of the army, he confessed he was wrong in the case of Colonel Wilson; but he accumulated instances of the promotion obtained by Lord Hardinge's relations. His practical propositions were, to abolish the system of purchase, promotion by favouritism, and the peculiar privileges of the Guards. He claimed the substance of Sir Edward Lytton's announced amendment; which he said was his own in another form. He moved the first of his own resolutions in these terms—"That this house views with deep and increasing concern the state of the nation; and is of opinion, that the manner in which merit and efficiency have been sacrificed, in public appointments, to party and family influences, and to a blind adherence to routine, has given rise to great misfortunes, and threatens to bring discredit upon the national character and to involve the country in grave disasters."—Sir E. B. LYTTON moved the following resolution as an amendment—"That this house recommends to the earliest attention of her Majesty's ministers the necessity of a careful revision of our various official establishments, with a view to simplify and facilitate the transaction of public business, and, by instituting judicious tests of merit, as well as by removing obstructions to its fair promotion and legitimate rewards, to secure to the service of the state the largest available proportion of the energy and intelligence for which the people of this country are distinguished." Sir Edward charged the prime minister with having raised the agitation out of doors by the injudiciousness of his resistance and the levity of his acquiescence; by the inconsistency of turning out the Duke of Newcastle, and Lord Panmure's declaration that he only intended to carry out the duke's improvements,—ministers scattering pleasant jokes and flowery epitaphs upon the defunct predecessors whom they had slain and buried. How deeply had Lord John Russell injured the Duke of Newcastle, or how egregiously had Lord Palmerston and his colleagues duped the expectations of the people! We have more to apprehend from such trifling and frivolity than from all the armaments of Russia. The cry against party is unreasonable and exaggerated: release the administration from party, that is from parliamentary control, and it would become the clockwork machinery of despotism, rendering the crown more absolute than in the time of the Tudors. The cry threatens the basis of our social system; but it is provoked by combination of families and privileged houses, with which the whig party have chilled the enthusiasm and energy of those whom the people recognise as their own hardy children, and mortified the pride of a numerous gentry, with birth as ancient as that of the coteries disciplined in whig drawing-rooms. Even the order in council on examination does not warrant confidence in the declarations of ministers: for it does nothing to widen the range of candidates, and it tells those who are invited to undergo a severe examination, that men unconnected with the public service and unexamined shall be put over their heads; and the very paper containing the advertisement of the examination announced three head appointments in the directorship of stores, contracts, and clothing, by the rule of favouritism. In conclusion, he said that he had framed his amendment in order that the house might take a vote, independently of party, on the simple question of administrative reform.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER disclaimed "a blind adherence to routine," though not to *system*, without which no service or law could go on; and he recapitulated those inquiries into the public departments which have been carried on

since 1848, and have been followed or accompanied by searching progressive reforms, that have rendered the departments much more efficient, and that will still be carried on. He intimated, that if Mr. Layard's resolution were carried, ministers, regarding it as a vote of want of confidence, would retire; but that, construing Sir Edward Lytton's amendment by the simple meaning of its words, he should have no difficulty in accepting it.—Lord GODERICH moved that the debate be adjourned till Monday; which was carried by 240 to 29.

On Monday, June 18, the *Report of the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee* was brought up by Mr. Roebuck, and read by the clerk at the table.

The adjourned debate on Mr. Layard's resolution respecting *Administrative Reform*, was then resumed. Lord GODERICH insisted upon the necessity of reform in various branches of the civil and military services, especially with regard to the mode in which appointments were made, and promotions distributed. He regretted that the government should have interpreted the resolution into a want of confidence, believing that they might, without disparagement to the character and dignity of the cabinet, have accepted the conclusion it presented, and cordially concurred in giving it a practical effect. The public now demanded administrative reform as the crown and complement of the representative and commercial reforms already accomplished. With the house itself lay, to a great extent, the duty of taking the initiative in performing this work, for the sake of which all interests of persons, parties, or classes, should be at once surrendered.—Mr. DISRAEELI recapitulated the steps which the government whereof he had been a member had attempted or designed for the improvement of different departments of the public service. The result of various experiments in this direction had brought him to the conclusion that efficiency and economy in every branch of administration were correlative terms. His labours and intentions at that period entitled him to assume the character of a veteran administrative reformer. Advertising to some departmental reforms in the Customs, the Treasury, and elsewhere, Mr. Disraeli contended that any general measure ought to have been prefaced by a formal investigation and report upon the subject by a Royal Commission. He then defined the principles on which the civil service should, in his opinion, be re-organised. Admission to the service ought to be regulated, not by interest, but fitness; the exertions of efficient functionaries ought to be better remunerated than at present; and the public service ought to be considered a profession where the loftiest prizes were placed within the reach of every *employé* who displayed energy and talent. With the resolution proposed by Mr. Layard he could not agree, being unable to assign to the faults of an administrative system the failures and disasters which he believed to be attributable entirely to an incapable and divided government. He then explained the reasons which induced him to approve of the amendment brought forward by Sir E. B. Lytton, as indicating a sound and practical system of reform. The ministry, he observed, had adopted the amendment, but had hitherto neglected every opportunity for accomplishing the object to which they now pledged their adherence.—Lord PALMERSTON alluded to some expressions attributed to Mr. Layard at the late meeting in Drury-lane, and repudiated the accusation of having rested on the sufferings, or vilified the character of the people of England. The charge against the present administrative system was, that five men were not chosen for high places in different departments. With respect to the highest class, the members of the cabinet itself, he declared that no family ties or narrow considerations had presided at their appointment, his only motive in selecting colleagues being to surround himself with men of the highest talent and character. Passing on to other departments, the noble lord contended that the military system had been sufficiently vindicated by Mr. Peel; and, with respect to the diplomatic service, remarked that, if the highest functionaries were noblemen, it was because their titles were won by a long and able performance of their important duties. In the consular establishment, also, he asserted, that the higher members had been almost,

without exception, promoted on account of merit, from the lower grades of the service. Into the civil service, generally, a system of examination had already been introduced, so as to secure a proper degree of education and capacity among the candidates admitted to office. But, on the whole, he feared that neither in amount of pay, rapidity of promotion, nor ultimate prospect of affluence, could the public service hold out temptations sufficient to attract men of the highest range of ability from the independent channels of professional or commercial exertion. Two opposite recommendations had been urged on different sides, on the subject of promotion in the public service. One party insisted that for every important office the best man should be selected, wherever he could be found; the other laid down the rule that such prizes must be given only to the best deserving of those who were already public servants. Neither principle, he argued, was altogether right. The government had followed one course or the other, according to circumstances, and in so doing upon some recent occasions had, he believed, acted rightly, although their appointments had been censured on both hands. Advertising to the resolution before them Lord Palmerston rebutted the assertion that national disasters were to be apprehended, or that national character had suffered discredit. On the contrary, the renown of the country never stood higher, nor were its prospects ever more bright. In accepting the amendment he declared that the government endorsed with perfect sincerity the pledge it conveyed for carrying out, in the best and readiest manner that could be found possible, the principle of administrative reform. After a motion for the adjournment of the debate had been negatived the house divided on Mr. Layard's resolution, when it was rejected by 359 against 46.—The amendment of Sir E. B. Lytton was then put as a substantive motion, but the discussion was adjourned, on the motion of Mr. Lindsay, to Thursday next.

On Tuesday, June 19, the mid-day sitting was occupied in the discussion of the *Tenants' Improvement Compensation (Ireland) Bill*. Considerable opposition and two divisions were interposed on the motion for going into committee on the bill, but finally the house went into committee and passed a few clauses of the measure.

In the evening sitting, on the motion of Mr. MACKINNON the appointment of a select committee was sanctioned "to inquire into the circumstances of the *Expedition to the Arctic Seas, commanded by Captain Macture*, with the view of ascertaining whether any and what reward may be due for the services rendered on that occasion."

Mr. HEADLAM moved an address to the crown, praying for such alterations in the rules of the military service as might secure the *Return of the Regulation Value of Commissions purchased by Officers in the Army who might Die or be Killed in Active Service to the Relatives or Representatives of the Deceased*, with an accompanying assurance that any expenditure incurred for such a purpose would be made good by the house. The repayment contemplated by his motion was advocated by him as being an act of mere justice, as well as a suggestion of expediency, especially in time of war.—Mr. PEEL objected to the form of the proposed resolution, arguing that it introduced a general principle under the cover of a particular case. If the purchase money of commissions were returned to the heirs of officers killed in the Russian war, it would be impossible to refuse a similar restitution to the representatives of those who might die in services of any description. Declaring himself unable to concede this point *in extenso*, he was obliged to oppose the motion before the house. Some compensation was, he remarked, already granted to the relatives of deceased officers in the shape of pensions.—The motion was supported by Col. Dunne, Lord A. Paget, Col. North, and Mr. Rice.—Lord PALMERSTON urged that the proposition then presented was connected with the wide and vexed question respecting the purchase and sale of commissions in the army, and could not expediently be dealt with separately. He suggested that by way of compromise an arrangement might be effected, allowing the representatives of officers killed in action to elect

between the pensions and allowances to which they might be entitled, and the price of the commission which had been held by their deceased relatives. In the prospect of such a scheme being carried out, he trusted that the subject would be left in the hands of the government.—Mr. HEADLAM consented to accept the arrangement proposed by the prime minister, and the motion was then withdrawn.

On Wednesday, June 20, at the noon sitting, the *Marriage Law Amendment Bill* was considered in committee. One clause in an amendment was moved by Sir F. THESIGER, with the object of annulling the retrospective operation of the measure. Since 1835 all marriages with a deceased wife's sister had been absolutely illegal; and he objected to the provision by which unions so contracted, in defiance of the statute, were now to be declared lawful and valid.—Mr. HEYWOOD opposed this restriction in the effect of the bill, and, after some considerable discussion, a division was taken, in which the amendment was negatived by a majority of 130 to 83—47. This clause and some others being afterwards agreed to, the further progress of the bill was adjourned to the 10th of July.

The house having resumed, the motion for going into committee on the *Bill of Exchange and Promissory Notes Bill*, which was brought forward by Mr. KEATING, was opposed by Sir F. THESIGER and other members. Mr. VANCE moved that the committee of the bill should be postponed until that day week. On a division, this amendment was negatived by 146 votes against 25—121. The opposition to the bill was, however, continued, and the debate was still proceeding at a quarter to 6, when it was suspended according to the rules of the house, and the motion became a "dropped order."

On Thursday, June 21, the order for resuming the debate upon *Administrative Reform*, having been read, the resolution of Sir B. Lytton was agreed to without discussion, and with only a solitary dissentient voice.

On Friday, June 22, Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that, on the 3rd of July he would move a resolution to the effect that the house deeply laments the *Sufferings of the Army in the Crimea*, and, coinciding in the report of the committee as to the conduct of the war, it feels that sincere reprehension attaches to every member of that government which counselled proceedings which have led to such lamentable results.

In answer to General Harcourt, Admiral BERKELEY said no official despatches had been received respecting the *Fate of the Boat's Crew at Hango*, except those which had already been published. He went on to complain of an attack which had been made upon himself in the Daily News, as if he were the author of the deaths of those men.

Mr. STAFFORD complained that many of the soldiers who had returned from the Crimea, had *Received no Pay since August last*, and were now in great distress. He warned the house that this state of things was doing great injury to the recruiting service through the country.—Mr. PEEL said the reason was that they had not received from the Crimea the papers to show to what the men were entitled. It was intended to pay the men a portion of their claims at once.

Mr. LINDSAY called attention to the *Transport Service*, and defended himself from the attacks made upon him by Mr. Drummond and Admiral Berkeley in a previous debate, and denied that in his recent speech at Drury-lane Theatre he had promulgated virulent untruths. He recapitulated many of the statements then brought forward, and adduced much confirmatory evidence and several new details gathered, in some degree, from the official returns.—Sir C. WOOD remarked upon the unfairness of making charges against ministers in a place where they had no opportunity for defence or explanation. He proceeded to notice in detail several of the instances cited by Mr. Lindsay, and stated circumstances tending to exonerate the Admiralty department from blame. Sir C. Wood then related some anecdotes to show that Mr. Lindsay's own business was sometimes mismanaged. Further comments and explanations were presented by different hon. members, until at length the subject dropped.

The house then went into committee, and resumed

the discussion on the clauses of the *Education (Scotland) Bill*. Several clauses of the measure were agreed to, after a discussion prolonged till past midnight.

On Monday, June 18, Sir C. WOOD, recapitulated the substance of the last despatches received from Admiral Dundas respecting the *Late Outrage at Hango Head*. The admiral had communicated with the Governor of Helsinki, and obtained a reply in some degree exculpating the conduct of the Russian officer in command on that occasion, who, it was asserted, saw no flag of truce, and acted under the impression that the crew of the Cossack's boat had been taking soundings. The result of the affair was that five of the seamen and the Finnish prisoners had been killed, four Englishmen and two Finns were wounded, three officers with four of the crew and two Finns being taken prisoners. Sir C. WOOD denied the truth of the report that the commander of the gunboat in the Black Sea had taken some soundings under cover of a flag of truce while restoring the private carriage of the Governor of Kerch.

The house in committee discussed the clauses of the *Victoria Government Bill*, which was carried through the stage, after considerable discussion, without undergoing any modification of importance.

The *New South Wales Government Bill*, and the *Waste Lands (Australia) Acts Repeal Bill* were also passed through committee.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.'

House of Lords.—Monday, June 4th.—Roman Catholic Charities Bill read a second time. Newspaper Stamp Duties Bill committed.

5th.—Newspaper Stamps Bill read a third time and passed. 7th.—Cambridge University Bill considered in committee. 8th.—Roman Catholic Churches Bill committed. Education of Pauper Children Bill read a second time.

11th.—The Fermany Peerage referred to a Committee of Privileges, Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill committed.

12th.—Religious Worship Bill reported. Church Patronage Bill committed. University of Cambridge Bill reported. Roman Catholic Charities Bill read a third time and passed.

14th.—Needlewomen's Bill referred to select committee. Cambridge University Bill read a third time and passed.

15th.—Religious Worship Bill referred to a select committee. Education of Poor Children Bill read a third time and passed. 18th.—Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill reported. Infants Marriage Bill reported.

19th.—Friendly Societies Bill read a second time.

21st.—Measurement of Shipping Bill read a second time. Leases and Sales Bill read a third time and passed. Charitable Trusts Bill committed. Public Libraries (Ireland) Bill read a second time.

22nd.—Assizes and Sessions Bill read a second time. Church Patronage Bill reported. Stamp Duties Repeal on Matriculation and Degrees (Oxford) Bill committed. Charitable Trusts Bill reported.

House of Commons.—Monday, June 4th.—Youthful Offenders Bill read a first time.

5th.—Stamp Duties Repeal on Matriculation and Degrees (Oxford) Bill read a first time.

6th.—Public Libraries (Ireland) Bill committed.

7th.—Friendly Societies Bill read a third time and passed. 11th.—Metropolis Management Bill in committee. Validity of Proceedings Bill read a first time. Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Youthful Offenders Bill read a second time.

12th.—Validity of Proceedings Bill read a second time. Metropolis Management Bill in committee. Decimal Coinage, Mr. Brown's resolutions carried.

13th.—Sunday Trading Bill in committee.

14th.—Education (Scotland) Bill in committee. Victoria Government and New South Wales Government Bills read a second time. Waste Lands (Australia) Bill read a second time.

15th.—Administrative Reform, Mr. Layard's resolutions, debate adjourned.

18th.—Report of Sebastopol committee brought up and read. Administrative Reform, Mr. Layard's resolution negative. Spirits (Irish) Act Amendment Bill committed.

19th.—Tenants Improvements Compensation Bill in committee.

20th.—Marriage Law Amendment Bill in committee.

21st.—Metropolis Local Management Bill in committee. Tenants Improvements Bill in committee. Dwellings for Labouring Classes (Ireland) Bill read a third time and passed. Administrative Reform, Sir E. Lytton's resolution agreed to.

22nd.—Mr. Roebuck's notice of motion of censure on the government. Education (Scotland) Bill in committee. Union Charges Act Continuance Bill read a second time.

23rd.—The Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill was read a second time. The Burial Ground (Scotland) Bill and the Administration of Oaths Abroad Bill were respectively

read a third time and passed. The Indemnity Bill and the Stock-in-Trade Bill were read a second time. The house went into committee on the Criminal Justice Bill, and passed a few clauses of the measure. The Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes Bill went through committee.

The first meeting of the *Administrative Reform Association* was held on Wednesday evening the 13th instant, in Drury Lane Theatre, which was crowded in every part. On the stage were the Earls of Miltown and Lindsay, and the following members of parliament: Messrs. F. H. F. Berkeley, Bell, Oliveira, W. Michell, Miali, F. French, Pellett, R. Swift, Bowyer, Maguire, Jackson, Follett, Currie, Layard, Lindsay, Tite, Otway, C. H. Russell, Alcock, G. Dundas; Sir C. Napier, Sir C. Shakerley, Capt. Eastwick, Messrs. Gassiot, Leaf, Nicholay, Travers, Ingram, Thackray, Edwin James, and many others. Mr. Morley occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings. The principal speaker was Mr. Layard, who was received with loud and repeated bursts of cheering. He said there was a very general and deep-seated conviction abroad, that the country was most grievously misgoverned. That conviction was not limited to a few, nor had it been hastily arrived at; but, on the contrary, it was very deep-seated, and the movement which was the consequence of it, like most movements which had taken place in the country, was essentially a movement organised and carried on by those who, above all others, represented the intelligence, wealth, and enterprise of England. If he were called upon to divide England into two parties as connected with this movement, he should say that on one side were all the men of common sense, of respectability and wealth, who by their perseverance and industry hoped to raise a name for themselves and to do good to the public service; while on the other, there was a small party who claimed to themselves the monopoly of government, and who lived, grew fat, and vegetated upon those corruptions and evils which the association were determined, if possible, to remove. However dangerous agitation might be in general, there was a time when agitation was necessary in order to correct a greater evil than agitation itself could produce, and that time had now arrived. The association felt, that while in this great country, during a long period of comparatively entire peace, all that concerned the private relations and enterprises of the country had made a progress unexampled in its history; that while national monuments, such as had never been equalled in the greatest empires of the world had arisen around us, and while everything was moving and doing, the government of the country alone stood still. They had, therefore, thought it better to come forward now, and give an impetus and movement to this feeling, rather than to remain any longer listless and regardless of it. He could not but think that the present war, putting aside all political objects, would lead to many beneficial results, one of which was undoubtedly the establishment of the Administrative Reform Association. If the war had not taken place we should have slumbered too long. But, putting aside all political considerations as to the justice and necessity of the war, he thought all persons would be agreed that, as we were engaged in war, that war ought to be carried on in a manner consistent with the honour and dignity of the country. Of the mis-government of the country the labours of the Sebastopol Committee afforded ample evidence, the three blue books which they had issued, recording the ignorance, indifference, and obstinacy of a government such as he would defy the whole history of the world to produce. They cast the greatest shame upon the people and upon the system, though fortunately there was one redeeming point, inasmuch as they showed instances of heroic suffering, of patient endurance, and of virtue that had never been equalled. Who could read without emotion the evidence of such witnesses as Messrs. Stafford, Osborne, and Macdonald? Their testimony proved the utter ignorance and incompetence of the government officials, and showed that the most intense sufferings had been borne by the troops with patient endurance, and with but one gleam of hope. And whence did that ray of hope come? It came from the midnight lamp of

that heroic woman who, as had been well described, was nightly to be seen passing alone along miles of agony and suffering. Whence, also, had come the small comforts which had been supplied to relieve the condition of the troops? They came from funds supplied by private benevolence and administered by a great organ of public opinion. A woman self-devoted, and a man who had never seen war or gone into sickness, and who was selected only for his intelligence, these were the people who scattered hope and comfort, which all the great appliances of the country, which had cost millions of taxation, were totally unable to effect. What lesson were they taught by this? Why, that almost every improvement which had taken place had come from private suggestion, and that almost every substantial alleviation of suffering had originated in public charity. Mr. Layard proceeded to speak of the object of the association, which was the reform of the three great branches of the public service—the army and navy, the diplomatic and the civil services: on each of these heads he commented at some length; and concluded by saying, that what he wished to see was a new party in the House of Commons, not representing a class, but representing the feelings and opinion of the people of the country, and relying for support not upon family connections, but upon the people.—Mr. Lindsay, M.P., was the next speaker, and said he was desirous of laying before the meeting some plain facts with which he had been lately made acquainted. About six weeks ago he was asked by Sir Lacy De Evans if the scarcity of shipping was still as great as it had been? His reply was, that shipping might be found to any amount; when Sir Lacy De Evans said his statement was very strange, because for more than a month he had been desirous of sending out 3,000 horses to his division in the Crimea, and he had been told that it was impossible to find ships to carry them out. He (Mr. Lindsay) made inquiries into the matter, and subsequently addressed a letter to Sir Lacy Evans, stating that some time ago a friend of his had written to Lord Panmure, offering to supply in twenty-four hours a magnificent fleet of the finest ships in the world, capable of carrying out 2,200 horses, at the low rate of sixteen or seventeen shillings per ton registered tonnage. The answer received was the usual one—that the offer would be considered. Some time afterwards another offer was made to the government to find a fleet capable of taking out 2,600 horses, and yet he (Mr. Lindsay) understood that to this day the larger portion of the horses referred to by Sir Lacy Evans had not gone out. Mr. Lindsay then adduced several parallel cases having reference to the mismanagement of affairs at the Transport Board, and said that he had moved for returns to be made with respect to the transport service; and although the government had taken five months to make them, yet there were so many errors in them—even wilful errors he was afraid—that if a clerk of his had made one-tenth part of them, he would have dismissed him, and he would not rest until the men who had made the errors in these returns were dismissed. Mr. Tite, Mr. Otway, and Sir C. Napier, afterwards briefly addressed the meeting, and the proceedings terminated, no resolutions having been proposed, according to the arrangement originally agreed upon.

Much attention has been excited by *Prince Albert's Remarks on the State of Public Affairs*, delivered at the annual dinner of the Trinity Corporation on the 9th inst. His Royal Highness proposed the health of her Majesty's ministers in the following terms:—“If there was ever a time at which her Majesty's government, by whomsoever conducted, required the support,—ay, not the support alone, but the confidence, goodwill, and sympathy of their fellow-countrymen, it is surely the present. It is not the way to success in war, to support it, however ardently and enthusiastically, and at the same time to tie down and weaken the hands of those who have to conduct it. We are engaged with a mighty enemy, who is using against us all those wonderful powers which have sprung up under the generating influence of our liberty and our civilisation. You find him with all that force which unity of purpose and action, impenetrable secrecy, and uncontrolled despotic power, have given, while we have to meet him under a state of things in-

tended for peace, and for the promotion of that very civilisation, the offspring of public discussion, of the friction of parties, and of the popular control on the government and the state. The Queen has no power to levy troops, nor has she any at her command, but such as offer their voluntary services. Her government can take no measure for the prosecution of the war which it has not beforehand to explain in parliament. Her armies and fleets can make no movements, nor even prepare for any, without their being publicly announced in the papers. No mistake, however trifling, can occur, no want or weakness exist, which is not at once denounced, and even sometimes exaggerated with a kind of morbid satisfaction. The Queen's ambassador can enter into no negotiations without the government having to defend him by entering into all the arguments which that negotiator, in order to be successful, ought to be able to shut up in the innermost recesses of his heart. Nay, at the most critical position, when war and diplomatic relations may be at their height, an adverse vote in parliament may at a moment deprive the Queen of the whole of her confidential servants. Gentlemen, our constitutional government is undergoing a heavy trial, and we shall not get successfully through it unless the country will grant its confidence—patriotic, intelligent, and self-denying confidence—to her Majesty's government. Gentlemen, I propose to you to drink the health of Viscount Palmerston and her Majesty's ministers." The toast was drunk with loud cheers; and Lord Palmerston, after acknowledging the support received by the government from parliament and the country, concluded by saying:—"We should be unworthy of that confidence and support if we were not determined to exert our best energies, and to direct the best energies of the country, towards obtaining that victorious result of the conflict in which we are engaged, which alone can be consistent, I will not say with the honour and glory, but with the safety of the British nation."

An extraordinary demonstration against the *Sunday Trading Bill* took place in Hyde Park on Sunday, the 24th. A few days before placards had been displayed throughout the metropolis inviting the working classes and others to attend in Hyde Park on Sunday afternoon, to see "how the aristocracy observed the Sabbath." In obedience to this call, several thousand persons had assembled in the park between two and three o'clock yesterday. A great number of policemen were distributed throughout the park, but did not interfere with the free movement of the persons assembled, the vast majority of whom appeared to be of the better class of artisans, accompanied in numberless instances by their wives and families. The equestrian ride in Rotten-row was totally deserted, but soon after three o'clock a variety of carriages began to make their appearance in the Drive running along the right bank of the Serpentine. The vast crowd at once took up a position on each side of the road, extending from the Achilles statue to Serpentine-bridge, and as each carriage passed along indulged in loud hissing and groaning, accompanied by deafening cries of "Go to church;" "Why do you allow your servants to work on Sunday?" "Shame on you!" "Down with the Sabatarians!" "Away with the Sunday Bill!" In the majority of instances the occupants of the carriage did not venture to return down the Ride, but went home evidently astonished, and, probably, impressed with what they had seen and heard. The crowd remained until nearly eight o'clock. A great number of the members of the legislature were present looking on.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

THE police reports almost every day contain cases of crimes and outrages committed by *Ticket-of-Leave Men*. At Bow-street a young man named Thomas Jones, a returned convict on "ticket-of-leave," was charged with using indecent language to a police constable. The officer stated that, after himself and other officers had quelled a disturbance in Drury-lane, the prisoner fol-

lowed him for the purpose of abusing him, and he never heard more shocking language used in the public streets in his life.—Mr. Jardine said the language must have been bad indeed to shock a policeman. It formed a striking contrast, no doubt, to the sentiments expressed by the prisoner in his interviews with the chaplain of the prison from which he had obtained his ticket-of-leave. On these occasions, it appeared, the adoption of a hypocritical tone and a canting expression of the countenance (which the worst of them were capable of assuming best when it served their purpose to do so) sufficed to obtain their discharge before the expiration of half the term of the original sentence, with the further advantage of a written character, enabling them to impose upon the public. He had not presided there any day for some time past without having to dispose of some charge against a "ticket-of-leave" man. The neighbourhood is infested with them. They stand at the corners of streets at midnight, and pouncing suddenly upon the lonely passenger, half-strangle and rob him before even an alarm can be given. His worship then committed the prisoner to seven days' imprisonment.—A few days afterwards, at the Middlesex sessions, John Fitzgerald, another "ticket-of-leave" man, was found guilty of having stolen a watch. In 1850 the prisoner was sentenced to ten years' transportation for a similar robbery. The assistant judge sentenced him to six years' penal servitude.—On the occurrence of another "ticket-of-leave" case at the same sessions, the assistant judge made the following observations: He said he was one of the first to denounce this ticket-of-leave system when it was proposed, and he, in turn, was attacked and denounced for doing so; but the results proved that he was right in the view he took. No system could be devised more calculated to demoralise the whole kingdom, and it was really fearful to contemplate what the consequences of its operation would be even five years hence. When these men were discharged from gaol they had money given to them, and had the fare paid to convey them back to their old haunts and their old associates, with a post-office order for a further sum on their arrival. One of the first that came before him after the system was in practice received 8*l.* or 10*l.* on being discharged; he was sent back to where he had been a notorious thief, the worst part of St. Giles's, and two days after his arrival he was detected picking pockets himself, and teaching a boy how to do the same thing. The evil consequences of the measure were becoming more apparent every day. A session or two back he tried a case of a serious and brutal assault committed by a gang of three liberated convicts and prostitutes for the purpose of robbing. If the system was to continue it was much to be lamented that instead of giving these men large sums on their discharge, and sending them back to the scene of their former career of crime, the money was not set aside for some institution, where the really penitent and deserving could be admitted, reformed, and ultimately sent out to some foreign settlement, where they might become good and useful men, the want of some such institution being exemplified in a remarkable manner in the case under notice.

The two recent cases of *Practical Joking in the Army* have been disposed of by the Commander-in-Chief. The misconduct of Ensigns Sanders and Neville, of the 30th Regiment, to an Ensign of the 50th, at the Provisional Battalion at Fermoy, has elicited a letter from General Yorke to Lord Seaton, commanding the forces in Ireland, in which he says: "There being two lieutenancies in the 30th Regiment about to be filled up, I am directed by the General Commanding to state, that, advertiring to the gross misconduct of Ensigns Sanders and Neville of that regiment in the case which was brought under his notice in March last, Lord Hardinge could not think of recommending those officers to her Majesty for promotion on this occasion, and they will accordingly be passed over by the next officers." He adds that until the conduct of Ensigns Sanders and Neville has been favourably reported upon for at least two successive quarters, they need not look for any promotion; but as it is not just that the other Ensigns junior to them should suffer for their misconduct, these will successively pass over them whenever vacant lieutenancies may be filled up in the regiment till the period of probation as above laid down

shall have expired. It is Lord Hardinge's determination to take this course in every similar case that may not appear to require a still more severe proceeding.—In regard to the case which occurred at Canterbury, the Commander-in-Chief's decision is, that Cornet Evans, of the 6th Inniskillings, is to be cashiered; that Lieutenant Webster, of the 1st Royals, is to retire from the service by the sale of his commission; that Lieutenant Hartopp is most severely reprimanded, and his conduct is to be reported every three months by his commanding officer, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief. Lord Hardinge considers Sergeant Brodie's conduct in preventing the duel most praiseworthy, but it would have been better if he had reported his apprehensions to his commanding officer the previous night. Cornet Baumgarten is directed to be more on his guard for the future, and his attention is called to certain sections in the Articles of War. Captain Fitzwygram's name is not mentioned.

Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Bates, a very ancient banking firm near Temple Bar, stopped payment on the 11th inst. At first their liabilities were rated at £350,000.; but it since appears they more probably amount to from £500,000. to £700,000. The suspension was attributed originally to imprudent advances on shares and to contractors of the Lucca and Pistoja Railway; but more searching inquiries place the matter in a worse light: it is believed that the firm have long been insolvent, and that the speculation in Italian railways was merely a desperate effort to retrieve their position. The chief customers were the nobility and gentry of the West-end: it is reported that one nobleman will be a loser to the extent of £40,000., which was the balance of his account,—for the assets are looked upon as trifling, or nil. Messrs. Strahan and Co. also carried on business in Norfolk Street as navy agents, under the title of "Halford and Co.;" and their suspension will be a blow to many naval officers.—A meeting of the creditors was held on the 19th inst., for the choice of assignees. It was stated that the bankers knew of their insolvent condition for six years past; and the fact of some customers having drawn out about £20,000. on the Saturday, the last day the firm carried on business, was adverted to. When the bank closed there was but £2000. in the coffers, and this was seized for the Crown on the 18th. On the day the meeting was held, warrants were issued for the apprehension of the three partners, Strahan, Paul, and Bates, to answer criminal charges preferred by Dr. Griffith. The charge is, that the firm had unlawfully disposed of £22,000. worth of securities deposited at the bank—an offence punishable by transportation. Mr. Bates was apprehended in Norfolk Street. Mr. Strahan could not be found. Sir John Dean Paul was arrested at his house at Nutfield, near Reigate. As the officers with the prisoner were getting into the railway carriage, the train began to move. Sir John was already in his place, in a second-class carriage, and the officers were about to follow him into the same carriage, when a railway porter pulled them back, exclaiming, "The train is in motion, and you can't get in." The officers replied, "We are police-constables: he is our prisoner, and we must accompany him: resist us at your peril!" To this the porters merely rejoined that they were only carrying out their orders, "to prevent any one entering a carriage while the train was in motion;" and having closed the carriage-door against the officers, the train went off without them. The constables begged in vain that the train might be stopped. A telegraph message was sent to the London station; but as the station-master did not know Sir John, that proved useless, and Sir John was not retaken.—Mr. Bates was produced at Bow Street on the 20th; but the solicitor for the prosecution did not arrive until the prisoner had been remanded, and the case was not gone into. Mr. Ballantine, counsel for Mr. Bates, said he should be able to show that his client knew nothing of the transaction; indeed, that he was abroad at the time of the alleged negotiation.—On Wednesday evening the 20th, Mr. Strahan was apprehended at a friend's house in Grosvenor Square; and he was carried on Thursday to Bow Street. There Dr. Griffith appeared against him, and showed that property intrusted to the bank, chiefly

securities, worth £22,000., had been pledged or sold without his authority. Mr. Ballantine stated that Mr. Strahan did not wish to evade the charge. Had he not been arrested, he would have surrendered. On Thursday night the 21st, Sir John Paul surrendered, stating that he had had no intention of evading the officers.—On the 22nd the three prisoners were placed in the felon's dock at Bow Street, charged with having fraudulently disposed of certain securities to the value of £22,000. which had been intrusted to them, for safe custody, by the Reverend John Griffith, D.D., Prebendary of Rochester Cathedral. The court was crowded to excess. Mr. Bodkin appeared for the prosecution, Mr. Ballantine for Paul and Strahan, and Mr. Parry for Bates. Dr. Griffith, in the course of his evidence, described how Mr. Strahan had called on him on Wednesday, and had begged him not to prosecute, as he would not benefit himself and would injure the other creditors. Mr. Strahan likewise stated that securities worth £100,000., including Dr. Griffith's, had been disposed of by himself and Sir John Paul about six weeks ago. No defence was offered: the defendants, through their counsel, expressed penitence, and promised a full disclosure. They were remanded.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A Fire, attended with the Death of Three young Children, took place on Saturday morning, the 9th inst., in a house in the Hackney-road, occupied by a man named Graham. About nine o'clock flames were observed issuing from the first-floor windows of the house, and loud shrieks of children were heard by some of the neighbours. Assistance was obtained immediately, but all attempts to get to the first floor were unavailing, the fire having taken such a firm hold of the interior. The flames were not extinguished until the upper part of the house was nearly burned out. A shocking sight then presented itself. Under the remains of a bedstead, in one of the upper rooms, were discovered the bodies of the three children of Graham, one a fine girl seven years of age, and two younger children, boys. They were crouched together in a heap, burned dreadfully. It is presumed that one of them had been playing with lucifer matches, and had set fire to the bed. There was no escape for the poor little creatures. The mother, who had gone on an errand, had, in order to keep them out of the streets, locked the room door. The anguish of the parents, on becoming acquainted with the melancholy fate of their children, was very great.

A fatal accident happened in the City on the morning of the 16th inst. While the numerous workmen engaged in rebuilding the premises of Messrs. Munt and Wood, straw-bonnet makers, Wood-street, Cheapside, were at breakfast, the newly-placed coping on the sixth and top floor fell into the street. Happily no one was passing at the time; but a poor carman belonging to Mr. Lucas, the builder, who was with his horse and cart at the time opposite the warehouses, was instantly felled to the ground and killed, one of the large pieces of stone having fallen on him.

Mr. George Curzon, heir-presumptive to the barony of Scarsdale, and cousin to Earl Howe, was killed by fall from his horse, riding in Hyde Park on Saturday evening, the 16th. He was taken to St. George's Hospital: Mrs. Curzon, his mother, arrived from Derby in obedience to a telegraphic message, in time to see him die; but he never recovered consciousness.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE corporation of Dublin have taken a step in the *Tenant-Right Movement*. On the 2nd inst. they waited upon the lord-lieutenant with an address, begging him to use his influence with the government in order that the subject may be settled in such a manner as "to give agricultural industry the same legal protection that

is extended to other industrial pursuits," "on a basis consistent with recognised commercial and industrial principles," securing to the owner of the soil all his just rights, and giving the industrious occupier a legal guarantee for improvements. Lord Carlisle said, he would not fail to transmit their opinions "for the consideration and encouragement of her Majesty's government."

The annual meeting of the *National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor*, was held at the Central School Rooms, Westminster, on the 6th inst., the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair. The business was confined to the reception of the report, the re-appointment of the managing committee, and the discussion of one resolution. The report, which was unanimously adopted, showed that since the last report the treasurer had been authorised to pay the sum of 8251*l.*, voted by the committee in aid of school buildings, which have been reported as finished. By this outlay, 253 schools, providing accommodation for 29,383 scholars, together with 100 teachers' residences, have been completed. The number of schools united to the society during the past year has been 234; making the total number of such schools 10,436. It was also stated that 900 competent masters have been sent out during the year from the Westminster Training-School to take charge of schools. The receipts in the depositary during the year 1854 amounted to 11,970*l.*; being an increase of 340*l.* over those of the preceding year. It was further stated, that the sale of the monthly paper had steadily increased, and now amounts to 6000 copies. The Reverend Downes Willis moved, that as the inquiry regarding the withholding of the catechism, in schools connected with the society, has proved inadequate, a more efficient investigation is necessary. The Reverend John Carnegie, of Seaford, seconded, and Archdeacon Denison supported the resolution. But the Bishop of London pointed out that the inquiry could only be made through the bishops; and that there were no means of compelling those who had not inquired to make an inquiry. The Bishop of St. David's and the Bishop of Gloucester stated that they had declined to inquire, and must still decline. Several gentlemen pressed Mr. Willis to withdraw his motion, but he persisted, and it was negatived by a large majority.

The anniversary gathering of the *Charity Children*, of the metropolitan free schools, in St. Paul's Cathedral, took place on the 7th inst. There were nearly 5000 children present, ranged without crowding, and in admirable order, and a congregation of 15,000 persons besides. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Llandaff. It is stated that this will probably have been the *last* gathering of the charity children in St. Paul's.

The annual festival of the *Artists' Benevolent Fund* was held on the 9th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, the Earl of Harrowby presiding. The company comprised many of our principal artists and patrons of art, including among others Sir C. Eastlake, Mr. C. Stanfield, Mr. D. Roberts, &c. The chairman in proposing the chief toast of the evening, "Success to the Artists' Benevolent Fund," dwelt upon the advantage of the institution, which, while it practised benevolence, at the same time inculcated prudence. During the past year the fund had paid annuities of 15*l.* each to fifty-two widows, and granted assistance to twenty-nine orphans of artists to the extent of 137*l.* 10*s.* In former ages improvidence had been regarded as the necessary accompaniment and distinguishing feature of great talent; but that mistake had passed away, and professional men were upon the whole far from improvident. Still the advantages might be greatly increased, and it was therefore desirable, now that such great endeavours were being made to foster art among all classes in this country, that the professors of art, as well as its patrons, should give their assistance to an institution which had such peculiar claims upon them. Mr. G. Godwin, in replying to a toast with which his name was connected, said he considered the Art Union of London as of the greatest benefit to artists. It had encouraged a taste for art, and many commercial men who commenced their career in art by gaining a prize in the Art Union had been led on to become assiduous collectors of pictures. The Art Union, twenty years ago, raised with difficulty 400*l.*; it

now had a steady annual income of 12,000*l.* or 13,000*l.*, which was all diffused among artists. A list of subscriptions, exceeding in the aggregate 350*l.*, was read, including 100 guineas from her Majesty.

A Treasury warrant has appeared in the *Gazette*, repealing the existing regulations for the *Postage of Books*, and issuing new ones. On and after the 11th June, "books, publications, or works of literature," may be sent by post within the United Kingdom at the following rates: every packet not exceeding four ounces, one penny; above four and not exceeding eight ounces, twopence; above eight ounces and not exceeding one pound, fourpence; above one pound and not exceeding one pound and a half, sixpence; and so on, twopence for every additional half-pound. These packets must not exceed two feet in depth or in width; they must be open at the sides; and must be paid for when posted, not in money, but being stamped with proper stamps. If the packet should exceed the proper size, or contain any "letter," it may be detained, or given up, on payment of double the amount of postage; if it contain writing, not being a letter, then the difference between the amount paid and the amount to which it is liable as a book packet, together with the sum of fourpence, shall be charged; if sufficient stamps be not affixed, then the difference shall be charged together with a further sum of fourpence. If the packet exceed the rate of postage to which it would have been liable as a letter, no higher than the letter rate shall be chargeable.

Sir Joseph Paxton has propounded a magnificent plan of *Railway Intercommunication in the Metropolis*. At a recent meeting of the committee of the house of commons on metropolitan communications, he gave a detailed account of a scheme for facilitating communication from one place to another by the construction of a "boulevard" or "girdle" Railway. Beginning near the Royal Exchange, he proposed to pass through Cannon-street, across the Thames by Southwark-bridge, thence through the Borough to Lambeth, crossing the river again near the Houses of Parliament, through Brompton, by Gore-house, through Kensington-gardens, to the Great Western, the North Western, and Great Northern stations, with a branch to Regent Circus. The length would be eleven miles, and the cost 34,000,000*l.* The trains would be worked on the atmospheric principle. The projector expressed a belief that the scheme would be remunerative.

The annual meeting of the supporters of the *St. Saviour's Southwark Ragged Schools* was held at the school-rooms on the 9th inst. In the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury, John Vickers, Esq., the treasurer, presided. The report dwelt upon the pitiable lot of the children of those who inhabit the courts and alleys of the locality where the society carries on its operations. It was mentioned, as an instance of the demoralisation in the midst of which they live, that one man confessed he had instructed no less than 500 such children to steal. It was, therefore, a source of congratulation to the inhabitants of St. Saviour's, that there was a place of refuge for poor children. The average attendance during the winter months was 140 to 180, and in summer 110 to 140. These children came from the lowest parts of the parish, and from the very poorest class. Industrial classes of both boys and men had been formed, comprising tailoring, shoe-making, needlework, &c. Some of the boys were in the shoebblack brigade, wearing a yellow uniform, and it was to be hoped they would receive as well as deserve the patronage of the inhabitants. No less than fifty bibles had been sold to the scholars. An appeal was made to find suitable situations for the children. The receipts for the year had been 122*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, and a balance of 5*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* was due to the treasurer. The report concluded with an urgent request for further support.

The meeting in behalf of the *Brewer's Court Ragged Schools*, on the 11th inst., at which the Duke of Argyll presided, was equally interesting. These schools are in the densely populated neighbourhood of Drury-lane. The report stated that the attendance at the day-schools averaged above 120, and at the night-schools 30; at the Sabbath morning-schools 30, afternoon 70, and evening 36, making a total of 280. A mothers' meeting had been opened during the year, for the purpose of instruc-

tion in the various household duties, management of infants, &c. In addition to the ordinary operations of ragged schools, fallen females have been restored to society, vagrants reclaimed, and young criminals reformed and placed in situations, or sent out as emigrants. The schools were placed in a neighbourhood where the need of such operations was keenly felt. In connection with the institution there was a dispensary, which had been most beneficial to the neighbourhood. Upwards of 8000 prescriptions had been made up for the poor. The year's receipts had been 1,062l. 16s. 4d., which were slightly exceeded by the expenditure. The chairman urged the necessity of increased efforts in aid of ragged schools, and concluded by a warm appeal on behalf of the institution, on whose behalf they had met.

The *Working of the Irish Incumbered Estates Act* is shown by a summary of its proceedings just published, compiled up to the 11th instant. The number of estates sold has been 1,622; the number of lots, 8,024; the number of conveyances executed, 4,961; the number of matters in which the owners were bankrupts or insolvents previous to the presentation of the petition, 319; the number of cases which had been pending in the Court of Chancery before being brought into the Incumbered Estates Court, 1,186. Of the purchases, 6,675 were Irish, and 220 English, Scotch, or foreign; and the number of acres purchased by these latter were 550,000, at a rate of purchase amounting to 2,271,010. The gross proceeds of all the sales were 15,239,570.; and the gross amount of money yet distributed in cash or stock, or of credits allowed to incumbrancers who were purchasers, was 12,760,665.; leaving a balance of about two millions and a half for funds allocated in trust, or provisional credits not yet made absolute, or cash and stock yet standing to the credit of the Commissioners in the Bank of Ireland. The public are looking out with some anxiety to the period when this court, to which Ireland may well be said to owe its regeneration, will be annexed, or its powers transferred to the Court of Chancery; and it has afforded very general satisfaction to find that the Commissioners of Inquiry have, in their report, recommended that when that annexation or transfer shall take place, the officers who have been trained into such an efficient performance of their duties in the Incumbered Estates Court shall still be retained in the public service.

The opening of the *New Metropolitan Cattle-Market in Copenhagen Fields* took place on the 13th inst., under the immediate auspices of Prince Albert. In replying to the address of the lord mayor and corporation, his royal highness said:—"I have been much pleased by the opportunity which your kind invitation has afforded me, of seeing and admiring the great work which you this day open to the public; a work which not only deserves all admiration in itself, on account of the excellence of the arrangements and the magnificence of the design, but which will, I trust, be found eminently conducive to the comfort and health of the city of London. That its success will be commensurate with the spirit in which it has been undertaken and carried out, I cannot doubt. A certain dislocation of habits and interests must inevitably attend the removal of the great city market from the site it has occupied for so many centuries, and this may possibly retard for the moment the fullest development of the undertaking; but any opposition arising from such causes will soon cease, and the farmers will doubtless soon learn to appreciate the boon thus conferred upon them by the London corporation, in the increased facility which will be afforded to them for the transaction of their business, and the comparative security with which they will be enabled to bring up and display their valuable stock in the great metropolitan cattle-market."

The annual meeting of the patrons and supporters of the *Mesmeric Infirmary* was held at Willis's Rooms on the 5th instant, and was very numerously attended. Dr. Elliottson read the report, which after congratulating the friends of mesmerism on the advance which it was making in public estimation, proceeded to mention that, during the course of the past year, 247 patients had been attended to at the Infirmary, of whom 43 had been on the books at the commencement of the year, and the other 204 had been since admitted. Of

these 69 had been cured, 9 nearly cured, 49 improved, 71 had discontinued attendance, and 41 were still under treatment. The cures last year exceeded by 27 the number of those achieved in the previous year, and it was to be remarked that the patients had almost all been treated in vain at the public hospitals, or by private practitioners, before having recourse to mesmerism, and that those who had discontinued attendance had gone to the infirmary under the impression that their cure was to be immediate. Among the cases cured were some of St. Vitus' dance, of neuralgia, of chronic asthma, of chlorosis, of amenorrhœa, of contractions of the limbs, of dropsy, of scrofulous diseases of the skin, and of inflammation of the brain.

The members of the *Royal Literary Fund Society* met on the 16th to consider the report of a committee appointed some time ago to inquire into the propriety of applying for a new charter extending the scope and objects of the corporation. This report recommends that the Society should be enabled to grant revocable annuities, and loans to distressed men of letters; that the Council should be remodelled; that evening meetings and conversazioni should be held in the rooms of the Society, and a library of reference established: and that hereafter, if the experiment succeed, it should be developed into a hall or college for the honour of literature and the service of literary men. For these purposes a new charter is necessary. Mr. Dickens moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Forster seconded the motion. A letter was read from the Marquis of Lansdowne, President of the Society, intimating that if the proposals of the report were persisted in, he should resign. Mr. Monckton Milnes, seconded by Mr. Pollock, moved an amendment on Mr. Dickens' motion, to the effect that as the proposed changes would involve an entire alteration in the nature and intentions of the Society, and as the Society's means are inadequate for the attainment of those purposes, the meeting would not recommend the application for a new charter to carry them into effect. Mr. Dilke, Mr. Dickens, and Sir Edward Lytton advocated the recommendations of the report; while they were opposed by Lord Stanley and the Bishop of Oxford. With regard to the suggestions respecting loans and annuities,—to adopt which, it was contended, no alteration of the charter was required,—Mr. Bond Cabbell, the chairman, said the committee would give them their most serious consideration. The amendment was carried, without a formal division.

The thirty-eighth anniversary of the *Royal Caledonian Asylum* was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern on 20th inst.; the Duke of Buccleuch in the chair. Eleven children of Scottish soldiers who have died in the Crimea were introduced by Sir John Maxwell. The sum collected after dinner was 1500*l.*

The *Eighth Annual Report of the Irish Poor-Law Commissioners* is of a very cheering character. In every one of the great provinces, the demand for labour and the wages of labour have risen considerably on the rate of last year. The demand is described as "unprecedentedly great, and "as steady and increasing." "Money-wages are more generally paid than formerly" in Munster. The improved circumstances of the poor in Connacht "are apparent from their clothing." "It is thus attested (says the Report), that universally throughout Ireland a more continuous state of employment of agricultural labour prevails; and that wages of 1*s.* per day are given, where formerly the rate was 4*d.*, 6*d.*, or 8*d.*; while in most parts of the country a man's wages reach 1*s.* 6*d.*, 2*s.*, or 2*s.* 6*d.* per day at certain seasons of the year." We believe that to these facts another important element of an improved condition may be added. We allude to the greatly increased demand for the labour of females and young persons of both sexes; which materially assists in rendering the income of an average family more proportioned to their physical wants than it was formerly, notwithstanding the present very high price of the necessities of life. In the period of six years, from 1849 to 1854, both years inclusive, we have ascertained that considerably more than 200,000 persons of both sexes have left the work-houses of Ireland, and have not returned to those asylums."

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen and Prince Albert, on the 16th instant, visited the camp at Aldershott; and, on the 19th they inspected the military hospitals at Chatham, showing the greatest interest in the condition of the wounded men, with whom they frequently conversed.

The Queen having discovered that a large portion of the children of the domestic and other servants at Buckingham Palace are very much neglected in the matter of education, has commanded that premises in Palace Street, Piccadilly, should be fitted up as a school, to be opened for educational purposes on Monday next. Mr. Charles Dodd, a gentleman of tried ability in his vocation, has been appointed master. The whole of the expenses will be defrayed by her Majesty. The number of scholars of both sexes at present eligible for admission is sixty-six. An evening school will also be established for such of the elder children as may be prevented from attending in the day-time.

The Earl of Stamford and Warrington has built a church at Dunham Massey, in the parish of Bowden, Cheshire, at a cost of more than £10,000, and has also endowed it with £100 a year. The Earl's first presentation was to the Reverend J. Kingsley, who has been curate of the parish church for twenty years.

Sir Hugh Munro, of Foulis, has bequeathed an estate at Milton, in Ross-shire, worth £300 a year, to found a school for the education of children of tradesmen of Perth; also £100 for the erection of a school-house.

Zephaniah Williams, the Newport Chartist, who was transported with Frost and Jones to Australia, has just made an accidental discovery in Tasmania of a bed of yellow coal, which bids fair to place him among the magnates of the land. During the searches for this mineral, a quantity of yellow shale was thrown aside, which being by chance brought into contact with a lamp, burnt so freely as to be with difficulty extinguished, and upon examination has proved to be a very superior coal.

The news of the last American mail intimates that Lady Franklin is at last resigned to the belief that her brave husband is no more: she has requested that a marble tablet, to be erected to the memory of Sir John and his devoted companions of the Erebus and Terror, might be taken by the Kane expedition and erected on the "White Cliff" at Beechey Island, by the side of that commemorating the fate of Lieutenant Bellet, of the Belcher expedition.

Mr. W. Atherton, Q. C., is appointed to the office of Judge-Advocate of the Fleet, as well as counsel to the Admiralty, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Phynn, appointed the permanent secretary to the board.

Captain Fox Maule Ramsay, of the 56th Regiment, is appointed private secretary to Lord Panmure, and has entered upon his duties at the War Department in conjunction with Lord Giffard.

Mr. Cope, the Governor of Newgate, retires on an allowance of 500*l.* per annum for life.

Mr. John Robert Godley has been appointed Director General of Stores; Mr. Thomas Howell, of the firm of Hayter and Howell, Director-General of Contracts; and Mr. George Dalhousie Ramsay, nephew of Lord Panmure, Assistant Director-General of Army Clothing.

Sir Moses Montefiore is on his way to Jerusalem, intending to found a large hospital there for his coreligionists.

Lord Palmerston has appointed the Reverend H. G. Liddell, Head Master of Westminster School, Dean of Christchurch, Oxford, in succession to Dr. Gaisford.

Dr. William Clark, of Wester Moffat, has placed at the disposal of the Church of Scotland the munificent sum of 20,000*l.* for the erection and endowment of a Free Theological College in Glasgow, provided other parties in Glasgow should provide a similar sum, so that 40,000*l.* should be immediately available for the purpose in view. The subscriptions in Glasgow towards this second sum already amount to 14,000*l.* and the major sum of 40,000*l.* may thus be considered as secured. But Dr. Clark's liberality does not stop here: he offers to pay down or secure an additional sum of 10,000*l.* for the same object, provided a like sum of 10,000*l.* additional should be guaranteed by responsible parties within the next twelve months.

Colonel Rawlinson has arrived in London from Bagdad, having brought to a close the excavations in Assyria and Babylon which he has been superintending for the last three years on behalf of the trustees of the British Museum.

Meyerbeer has arrived in London to superintend the production of "L'Etoile du Nord," at the Royal Italian Opera.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

Dr. THOMAS GAISFORD, Dean of Christchurch, and Regius Professor of Greek in the University of Oxford, died on the 2nd inst., in his 75th year.

General DUBRETON, who defended Burgos in 1812, and prevented Wellington from reaping the fruits of Salamanca, died at Versailles on the 3rd inst. He was 88 years old. The Duke of Wellington paid him a high compliment. After the peace, finding himself sitting next to General Dubreton at a dinner-party, the Duke said to him, "J'aime mieux, Général, vous avoir à côté de moi que devant moi."

Rear-Admiral BOXER, the harbour-master at Balaklava, has died there of cholera.

The BARON DE BODE, whose case has been so frequently before Parliament and the public, died on the 9th inst., at his residence in Albert street, Mornington-Crescent.

Mr. CHARLES COCHRANE, once famous as a candidate for the representation of Westminster, and well known as the promoter of the "street orderly" system, died on the 13th inst., at his residence in Nelson-square, Blackfriars-road, of inflammation of the brain. His age was 48.

Mr. ARTHUR GUINNESS, the head of the Dublin firm which has a world-wide celebrity for its "stout," died on the 9th inst., at the age of 88.

Madame LAVALEITE, who assisted her husband to effect his escape from prison (while under sentence of death by the Bourbon government), in conjunction with the aid rendered by Sir R. Wilson, Hon. Colonel Hutcheson, and Captain Bruce, has just died in Paris.

The Right Hon. Sir GEORGE ROSE, G.C.H., died at Sandhills House, near Christchurch, Hants, on the 17th inst.

General the Earl of CARROSBY died on the 16th inst., at his residence, near Clifton, in his 75th year.

General ALESSANDRO DELLA MAEMORA, Commander of the Second Division of the Sardinian Corps, has died of cholera at Kadikoi. He had served with distinction in the Piedmontese army, and was wounded on the passage of the bridge of Goito, on the 7th of April, 1848. He was in a precarious condition of health when he embarked for the Crimea.

ROBERT LINDLEY, the celebrated violoncellist, has died at Brighton, aged 55.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE Colonial intelligence of the month has been scanty and unimportant.

There has been a severe shock of earthquake in *New Zealand*. It was chiefly felt at Wellington, on the 23rd of January. Fortunately, most of the houses were built of wood, and they suffered little damage; but the Bank and Gaol were damaged; the Council Chamber was destroyed; and other brick-built edifices were thrown to the ground. Few if any persons had gone to bed, and they had time to snatch up their children and run out of the houses. Only one life was lost—that of one of the earliest colonists, Baron Alzdorf, who was just recovering from an attack of apoplexy. Vigorous

efforts were at once made to clear away the wreck and rebuild; none deserted the town; and business soon commenced as usual.—The shock was felt, about the same time, with more or less severity, throughout the island: many chimney tops were thrown down; much property was damaged; bridges were broken; the beds of the rivers rent and plunged up; rocks levelled; roads barred by fallen trees, upturned soil, deep cracks, and displaced boulders. Four natives were killed in a house at Wairarapa. The worst part of the coast-road to Wairarapa, at the Muka Muka rocks, became the best; for the beach, after the earthquake, extended beyond them above the level of high-water. At Nelson

only those brick buildings were further damaged which had remained unrepaired since 1848. The shocks at Lyttleton and Christchurch were severe, but no damage is reported.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE account of the Siege Operations before *Sébastopol*, in last month's "Narrative," come down to General Pelissier's telegraphic despatch of the 24th of May, mentioning the successful combat of the preceding night. From subsequent accounts it appears that there were bloody and desperate actions between the French and Russians on the nights of the 22nd and 23rd. General Pelissier describes the objects of these actions and relates their circumstances. "Since the storming," he says, "of the Russian counter-approaches in front of the Central Bastion, on the night of the 2nd of May, and the occupation of that important work by our troops, the enemy, to impede our progress and take our attacks in flank, turned their attention to the Quarantine side, and erected there new lines of counter-approach. They formed the plan of connecting by a gabionnade the ambuscades at the extremity of the bay, those of the cemetery, and to connect the work by a continuous covered way with the right lunette of the Central Bastion. In the night between the 21st and 22nd, by an enormous effort of labour, skilfully concealed, they commenced laying out that vast place d'armes so threatening for our left attack, and so convenient for enabling the enemy to assemble large bodies of men and make considerable sorties." General de Salles, commanding the First Corps, was ordered to carry the enemy's position, and turn the works against themselves. For this purpose "two attacks were organised, —one on the ambuscades at the bottom of the bay; the other on the ambuscades of the cemetery by the south-east angle of that enclosure: they were to be simultaneous. After having carried the new gabionnades of the enemy, the object was to maintain ourselves in advance with sufficient solidity to protect the work and to transform the Russian work to our own use. But the development of the lines was immense: two successive phases were to be expected in the action— one of battle, and one of labour."

The enemy had determined by a great effort to complete their works in one night, and they had no fewer than twenty battalions on the ground. In a few minutes after nine in the evening, General Paté had carried the ambuscades on the French right; but masses of Russians issuing from the Quarantine ravine, joined in the combat, and "disputed the ground with extraordinary obstinacy;" and the most distant rifle-pits were taken and retaken five times. On the left the Russians displayed the same tenacity, but yielded at length; and the French more fortunate than their comrades on the right solidly installed themselves on the ground. On the next night they carried the whole line. General Pelissier bears testimony to the great use made of the artillery by General Le Beuf.

On the 25th, "upon the reiterated demand of General Osten-Sacken, a flag of truce was hoisted, and an armistice concluded for carrying off the dead. We handed over more than 1,200 corpses to the enemy. This field of slaughter reminded us of our old struggles with the Russians; and, as in those memorable times, the honour of arms in these bayonet-fights always remained entirely with our infantry."

The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* describes these night battles of the 22nd and 23rd of May. This is the account of the first night's combat, when the French attack was repulsed:—"Yesterday evening (22nd), at nine o'clock, was fixed upon for the attempt; 500 Chasseurs, 200 of the Imperial Guard, with about 1,200 Zouaves, were told off as the assaulting party, with a reserve of 2,500 men of the Guards and Zouaves. Everything was arranged with the utmost secrecy, only the night, which was fine, clear and calm, seemed slightly against the success of the attack—at least as a surprise. The force quitted the French trenches in two strong columns, about 500 yards apart. The plan of the attack was to enter the trench at its two angles, so

as not only to secure the advanced trench itself, but to enfilade and command the flanking ways which led to it. Mistaking the flanking trench on the left for the advanced trench, the French commenced their attack on it, striving to close with the bayonet; but the natural difficulties of the ground with which our allies had to contend were almost insurmountable. Broken masses of stones, pits, mounds, gabions, and fascines cumbered the earth in all directions. Amidst these obstructions the French Guards and Zouaves got involved for a considerable time, exposed to a murderous fire from the enemy, which they were almost entirely unable to return. Our allies fell in all directions, yet still gallantly pressing on, they reached the breastwork. At this point a series of most desperate encounters took place. Four or five times the French crossed the breastwork and got a strong footing in the trench; but the heavy file-fire which, from under cover of the different breastworks, the Russians were able to keep up, prevented their retaining their conquest. To add still farther to their disadvantages, the Russian batteries had now got their precise range, and threw regular volleys of grape and shell into their ranks. Nevertheless, the assailants did not abandon the attack, but despatching messengers for reinforcements, continued their onset with determined courage. Suddenly, in the midst of the mêlée, the column which had departed to the right, attracted by the firing, now returned, and joining with the reserve column of upwards of 2,000 men, which had advanced to support the attack, poured in upon the advanced trench. Had this onset been made with the left column an hour or so sooner, there is no doubt it would have been completely successful, but as it was, the continued fighting had thoroughly alarmed the enemy, and strong columns of their troops lined every part of the work. Nevertheless, the attack was so impetuous, that the French succeeded, after a close and bloody contest, in getting a footing in several parts of the trench, and then commenced a fight for its possession, such as has not, for ferocity and bloodshed, been equalled during the siege. By mere dint of bayonetting and stabbing, the French managed to clear the advanced trench of the enemy and effect a junction with the left column, which had maintained a footing in one of the covering trenches. From the latter point, however, they were compelled to recire. The two covering trenches remained in the hands of the enemy, but the advanced cross-trench the French held completely. The hand-to-hand struggle then ceased. The French strove to throw up a breast-work, so as to cover them from the fire of the enemy. In this they were unsuccessful. From every point of the Russian batteries commanding the trench fire of artillery was poured upon them with such density and effect, that whole companies were swept away before it. Still they held their ground, though under the fire of the batteries they fell by scores. Strong parties of the enemy occupied the covering trenches, and from their position were enabled to enfilade the advanced trench with a murderous fire of infantry. It was a mere slaughter of the French. Twice driven to desperation by the cross fire from the trenches, they sallied out and attempted to carry them at the point of the bayonet; but these mere ebullitions of valour were of no avail against the strong works and well-organised resistance of the enemy. In both cases the French were driven back with loss, and retired to the cross trench, where they still continued to melt away under the devastating fire of artillery and musketry. It was close on dawn when a message was sent to the French general, informing him that nearly half the column had fallen in the attempt to hold the place; that it was a mere useless waste of life, as by daylight it would be utterly untenable. The answer was returned that they were to gather their dead and wounded and retire. This they accordingly did at about four in the morning, after

having maintained the sanguinary and unequal contest for more than six hours, and lost, it is said, the awful number of 1,300 men, killed, wounded, and missing. The Russian loss must also have been most severe, but from the fact of their men fighting entirely under cover, it is not supposed to be so heavy as that of the French."

The second and successful attack by the French on the following night is thus described:—"As was anticipated, the French made another attack upon the advanced trench last night (23rd), which was completely successful. This time the plan was better arranged—under the immediate care of General Pelissier himself, who informed the troops that if they failed then, they must attack again at daybreak, and continue to attack until the trench was in their possession. Three columns—each 3000 strong—were chosen for the assault, and started just as dusk was commencing—two slightly in advance, for the capture of the covering trenches on each side, and the centre column for the trench itself. In spite of all the vigilance of the enemy, the right and left columns closed with the covering trenches before they were discovered, and instantly attacked them. For a moment the Russians seemed bent on an obstinate resistance, but the attack at such an early hour of the evening (a little after eight) evidently took them by surprise, and after a short struggle both trenches were captured, the enemy flying in all directions. Numbers of them were shot and bayoneted on the spot. Almost at the same time the centre column attacked the cross trench; but here the enemy, being prepared and in greater force, a desperate contest took place, and it was not until after about twenty minutes' hard fighting that the French were enabled to get possession of it. As its defenders retired they were completely decimated by the cross-fire to which they were exposed from the French in the covering trenches. The instant that possession was obtained, half the troops were set to work to remove the gabions and breastwork from one side of the trench to the other, so as to shelter the assailants from the fire of the batteries, while the remainder, formed into two strong columns, advanced to attack the Russian soldiers who had been driven from the position, and who were halted at a short distance in the rear, evidently waiting for reinforcements to attempt a re-capture. Upon these the French rapidly advanced, and the Russians, though inferior in numbers, did not decline the contest. As our allies came on, the enemy deployed and received them with a smart file-fire, to which the French never returned a shot until within pistol range, when they, too, deployed, and firing one heavy volley, charged with the bayonet. The Russians fell into confusion, and, as I am informed, after shouting for a few minutes, threw away their arms and fled, the great mass of them keeping to the right in the direction of the cemetery, which lies outside the town, on the left of the Redan. The French, who were now thoroughly roused, and bent upon revenge, followed them closely, and bayoneted the fugitives by dozens. No quarter was asked or given. In this manner our allies pursued them for nearly half a mile, till both Russians and French arrived at a deep trench and breastwork on the left of the Redan, beneath the Garden Battery. Into this the flying enemy scrambled, and the French after them. A strong force of Russians seemed to hold this trench, but they appeared perfectly panic-stricken by the flight of their comrades, and after discharging their muskets in an irregular fusillade, fled with the rest, leaving the French in undisturbed possession of the second trench. At this point the commander of the French columns wisely called a halt. They had already penetrated into the enemy's lines further than any of the allies had been before, and to continue the advance with such a small force, and without support, would have been mere madness. As it was, they might have had great difficulty in effecting their retreat. A hasty examination was made of the trench, and one of the soldiers, who had advanced further than the rest up the parallel on the right, came running back, and reported that there was a new battery there. The whole force instantly advanced in the direction intimated, and, truly enough, found that in a large obtuse angle of the breastwork a new battery had been formed, and was totally abandoned. It

mounted some eight or ten heavy long guns, four mortars, and a number of coehorns. Not a moment was lost in turning the discovery to account. Half the force was instantly formed out in columns, with out-pickets to give notice of the approach of the enemy, who was now momentarily expected, and to keep them, if possible, in check till the destruction of the battery was completed. The rest of the troops, piling their arms, commenced the work of destruction. The long guns were instantly spiked, overturned, the trunions of the guns knocked off, and the spokes of the carriage-wheels chopped to pieces. Some, which were ships' guns, had their small wooden wheels split up, and the carriages thrown over the breastwork. The timber-tramways of the guns were levered up and carried away. The mortars were spiked, their beds overturned, and the trunions of two knocked off. The coehorns were captured and sent away immediately. But bad as this was, it was by no means all the mischief that was effected. Not more than 100 men were employed about the guns—the rest (upwards of 2000) were engaged in destroying the earthwork. All the gabions were dragged out, pulled to pieces, and their earth and stones scattered about. The sand-bags were pulled down and cut in two, and altogether the whole parapet of the battery was levelled with the earth. While this was going on, all the Russian batteries had opened and were in full play, though principally upon the advanced trenches, which had been captured early in the evening. In their demolition of the battery the French were hardly disturbed by a single shot. Large masses of Russian infantry were, however, collecting near the Redan and Garden works, evidently for the purpose of attacking the French. Their skirmishers constantly advanced, and exchanged shots with the French Guards, but while unaware of their strength, the enemy seemed by no means desirous for a closer contest. The French, who had now accomplished all they wanted, and far more than they expected to accomplish when they started, took advantage of the indecision of the enemy to retreat, and this they did with such rapidity and skill as to reach the captured trench from which they had sallied forth without the loss of a single man. The Russian fire upon the advanced trench was then terrific, and continued so for more than an hour; but the French sheltered themselves with their breastwork, so that it did but little damage, and eventually the enemy discontinued it altogether. No attempt was made to recapture the trenches, which still remain in the hands of our allies. In the whole affair of last night about 400 French were killed and wounded; the total loss of the Russians is supposed to be from 1000 to 1,500 killed and wounded, the greater part of whom were killed, as no quarter was given. Nearly 200 Russian bodies remain in the neighbourhood of the captured trenches. The French are deservedly proud of the capture and destruction of the battery. It is decidedly one of the most brilliant and bloody affairs of the siege."

On the 6th and 7th instant there was a series of bloody conflicts, attended with successful results. A despatch from Lord Raglan, dated the 9th, gives an account of these actions:—My Lord,—I have the great satisfaction of informing your lordship that the assault which was made upon the Quarries in front of the Redan, from our advanced parallel in the right attack, on the evening of the 7th instant, was attended with perfect success, and that the brave men who achieved this advantage with a gallantry and determination that does them infinite honour, maintained themselves on the ground they had acquired, notwithstanding that during the night, and in the morning of yesterday, the enemy made repeated attempts to drive them out, each attempt ending in failure, although supported by large bodies of troops, and by heavy discharges of musketry, and every species of offensive missile.—The French on our right had shortly before moved out of their trenches and attacked the Ouvrages Blanche and the Mamelon. These they carried without the smallest check, and their leading column rushed forward and approached the Malakoff Tower; but this it had not been in contemplation to assail, and the troops were brought back and finally established in the enemy's works, from which the latter did not succeed in expelling them,

though the fire of musketry and cannon which was brought to bear upon them was tremendous.—I never saw anything more spirited and rapid than the advance of our allies.—I am happy to say that the best feeling prevails between the two armies, and each is proud of and confident in the gallantry and high military qualities of the other.—I apprised your lordship, by telegraph, on the 6th, that our batteries reopened that afternoon. The fire was kept up with the greatest energy until the day closed, when it was confined to vertical fire; but the next morning the guns resumed the work of destruction, and the effect was such that it was determined by General Pelissier and myself, that the time had arrived for pushing our operations forward. Accordingly soon after six o'clock, on the evening of the 7th, the signal was given for the assault of the works I have enumerated and the result was most triumphant.—The troops employed in storming the Quarries were composed of detachments from the Light and Second Divisions, and at night they were supported by the 62nd regiment.—The command of these troops was entrusted to Colonel Shirley, of the 88th, who was acting as general officer of the trenches; and he was assisted in the arrangements and guided as to the points of attack and distribution of the troops by Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, the directing engineer officer of the right attack.—Although nothing could be more spirited than the attack on the Quarries, or more creditable to every officer and man engaged in the operation, yet I cannot refrain from drawing your lordship's especial attention to the energy and determination which they all displayed in maintaining and establishing themselves after their first success in them. They were repeatedly attacked during the night, and again soon after daylight on the 8th, and it was in resisting these repeated efforts on the part of the enemy that a great portion of the heavy loss the army has to deplore was sustained.—The mode in which Colonel Shirley conducted this very arduous service, and carried out his orders, entitles him to my highest commendations. I have great pleasure in mentioning the following officers, who are stated to have distinguished themselves on the occasion, viz.: Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, of the 90th, who commanded the storming party; Major Mills, Royal Fusiliers; Major Villiers, 17th; Major Armstrong, 49th; who are all severely wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, of the 88th; Major Bayley, of the same regiment, who was unfortunately killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, 49th; Major Simpson, of the 34th; Lieutenant-Colonel Johnstone, of the 33rd; Major Herbert, of the 23rd; Captain Lowry, of the 47th; Captain Turner, of the 7th; Captain Lowndes of the 47th; Captain Nason, of the 49th; Captain Le Marchant, of the 49th, who was wounded; Captain Wolsey, 90th; and Lieutenants Chatfield and Eustace, of the 49th; and Palmer, Irby, and Waddilove, of the 47th; and Captain Hunter, 47th; and Lance-Corporal Quinn, 47th, who took a Russian officer prisoner in the most gallant manner. I also feel it my duty to solicit your lordship's notice to the eminent services of Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers. Lieutenant Elphinstone, of the same corps, Lieutenant Anderson, 96th Foot (acting engineer), who is wounded; and he laments the death of Lieutenant Lowry, R.E., who conducted the storming party, and was afterwards killed by a cannon shot. Notwithstanding the frequency of the endeavours of the Russians to regain possession of the Quarries, and the interruptions to the work to which these attacks gave rise, Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden was enabled to effect the lodgment and to establish the communication with the advanced parallel, and this redounds greatly to his credit and that of the officers and men employed as the working party; and I cannot omit this opportunity to express my approbation of the conduct of the Sappers throughout the operations. The exertions of the Royal Artillery, under Brigadier-General Dacres, and those of the Naval Brigade, under Captain Lushington, R.N., in serving

the guns, cannot be too warmly commended. The accuracy of their fire is the theme of universal admiration; and the constancy with which they applied themselves to their arduous duties under all circumstances, however dangerous, cannot be too strongly placed upon record. It is deeply to be lamented that this success should have entailed so heavy a loss as is shown in the accompanying returns, which, however, are still incomplete; but I have the assurance of the principal medical officers that many of the wounds are slight, and that by far the greater portion of the sufferers are progressing most favourably. I have just learnt that the enemy have abandoned a work in the rear of the "Ouvrages Blanes," which they constructed at the commencement of the month of May. The French took possession of it on the 7th, but did not retain it. In the other works they captured 62 pieces of artillery, and they have 11 officers and about 400 men prisoners. We have a few prisoners, and amongst them a captain of infantry, who was wounded, and taken by Corporal Quinn, of the 47th regiment."

A second despatch of Lord Raglan's, with respect to the affair above narrated, encloses Dr. Hall's return of the killed and wounded on the 7th June. His lordship says that on the 8th he visited the hospital, and was much pleased with the attention bestowed by the surgeons, and with the resignation of the sufferers, the greater portion of whose injuries were such as to warrant a hope of recovery.

The nominal return of officers killed, from the 4th to the 7th June, inclusive, is as follows:—Royal Engineers—Capt. G. Dawson, Lieut. T. G. Lowry. 2d Battalion, 1st Royals—Capt. B. H. E. Müller. 3d Foot—Lieut. H. M. Lawrence. 55th Foot—Lieut. R. J. T. Stone. 62d Foot—Major W. F. Dickson, Capt. J. B. Forster. 68th Foot—Lieut. J. Marshall. 88th Foot—Brevet-Major E. Bayley, Capt. E. Corbett, Captain J. Wray, Lieut. E. H. Webb.

The following is the nominal return of officers wounded on and between the two days above named:—Royal Artillery—Capt. M. Adey, severely; Capt. A. Gordon, slightly; Lieut. J. E. R. Keene, slightly. Royal Engineers—Lieut. C. G. Gordon, slightly. 3d Foot—Capt. G. J. Ambrose, severely; Lieut. H. A. A. Breedon, slightly. 7th Foot—Major F. Mills, slightly; Capt. W. V. Turner, slightly; Lieut. H. M. Jones, slightly; Lieut. L. J. F. Jones, slightly; Lieut. G. H. Waller, slightly. 17th Foot—Lieut. J. B. H. Boyd, slightly. 19th Foot—Lieut. E. W. Evans, severely. 20th Foot—Lieut. and Adjutant F. Padfield, severely. 30th Foot—Capt. M. Pennefather, severely. 34th Foot—Capt. J. Peel, severely; Capt. G. E. B. Westhead, severely; Lieut. T. H. Saunders, severely. 41st Foot—Capt. F. H. Dixon, slightly. 47th Foot—Major J. Villiers, severely; Capt. J. H. Lowndes, severely; Lieut. J. C. Irby, dangerously. 48th Foot—Lieut. F. C. Trent, slightly. 49th Foot—Major J. W. Armstrong, severely; Capt. B. Le Marchant, severely; Lieut. W. Young, severely; Lieut. T. F. Eustace, severely. 55th Foot—Lieut. J. Scott, slightly. 62d Foot—Lieut.-Col. R. A. Shearman, dangerously, since dead; Capt. W. L. Ingall, slightly. 77th Foot—Capt. B. D. Gilby, slightly; Lieut. M. W. Dickson, slightly. 88th Foot—Capt. E. G. Maynard, severely; Lieut. C. W. A. T. Kenny, severely; Lieut. J. F. Grier, slightly. 96th Foot—Lieut. C. Anderson, Assistant-Engineer, slightly. 97th Foot—E. R. Mackesy, severely.

The above despatches relate chiefly to the attack on the Quarries by the English troops; but graphic accounts of the French attack on the Mamelon, mentioned by Lord Raglan, are given by the correspondents of the *Times* and *Daily News*. The French divisions assembled at 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 7th, and began their march to the advanced trenches. One of 15,000, was to make the attack, the other of 10,000, to secure the conquered ground. "The second division," says one of the letters, "with General Camou at the front, led the way. About six or seven hundred yards from the entrance to the Karabehnaya ravine, the regiments were halted; and shortly afterwards General Bosquet arrived, with his staff, and addressed a few words to each regiment in turn. By each, at the conclusion of his remarks, the General was greeted with loud cheers.

The order to move forward was then given. A battalion of the Algerian troops led the way, marching in column of subdivisions. They left behind their white turbans, and wore only the scarlet fez; their blue open jackets, and blue vests, with yellow embroidery, their trousers in ample folds, of the same colour, contracted only at the waist and in the leg, where the yellow feather greaves and white gaiters covered them, their bare necks, their light elastic tread, all presented a perfect picture of manly ease and activity. Their swarthy, and in many instances jet-black countenances, beamed with excitement and delight: they gave vent to their feelings in exclamations which only those versed in African warfare are familiar with; and seemed with difficulty to restrain themselves to the measured tread of the march. . . . Altogether, about 12,000 men went by in this division. Groups of men belonging to the two brigades of the British Light Division, some fully equipped, some half dressed, for parading previous to taking their part in the British right attack, ran and assembled on each side of the sloping hills forming the commencement of the ravine, and greeted each regiment as it passed with loud cheers. The French officers and men, joining heartily, returned the salutation. Soon after the 7th Regiment had passed, a battalion of the Imperial Guard marched forward, apparently picked men, and followed the attacking columns.

"It was a little after five o'clock when the first battalion of Chasseurs passed down the gorge which leads towards the plateau crowned by the Mamelon. Just about this time, General Pennefather arrived with his staff; when the air rang with hurrahs, caps flew up, and whenever he stopped for a moment he was surrounded by the soldiers, who seem to love him like a father. As the cheering did not cease, he winked as if to ask them to listen for a moment, and then said, smiling, 'Leave the cheering till you have taken the place,' which was succeeded by other cheers, and cries of 'We will take it,' and 'Never fear us.'

"The French went up the steep to the Mamelon in most beautiful style and in loose order; and every straining eye was upon their movements, which the declining daylight did not throw out into bold relief. Still, their figures, like light shadows ditting across the dun barrier of earthworks, were seen to mount up unfailingly — were seen running, climbing, scrambling like skirmishers up the slopes on to the body of the work, amid a plunging fire from the guns, which, owing to their loose formation, did them as yet little damage. As an officer who saw Bosquet wave them on said at the moment, 'They went in like a clever pack of hounds.' In a moment some of these dim wraiths shone out clear against the sky. The Zouaves were upon the parapet firing down into the place from above; the next moment a flag was up as a rallying point and defiance, and was seen to sway hither and thither, now up, now down, as the tide of battle raged round it; and now like a swarm they were in the heart of the Mamelon, and a fierce hand-to-hand encounter, here with the musket, there with the bayonet, was evident. . . . Twice the Russians made head against the current; for they had a large mass of troops in reserve, covered by the guns of the Round Tower. Twice they were forced back by the on-sweeping flood of French, who fought as if they had eyes upon them to sketch the swift event in detail. For ten minutes or so, the quick flash and roll of small-arms had declared that the uncertain fight waxed and waned inside the enclosure. Then the back-door, if one may use a humble metaphor, was burst open. The noise of the conflict went away down the descent on the side towards the town, and the arena grew larger. It was apparent by the space over which the battle spread the Russians had been reinforced. When the higher ground again became the seat of action—when there came the second rush of the French back upon their supports, for the former one was a mere reflux or eddy of the stream—when rocket after rocket went up ominously from the French General's position, and seemed to emphasize by their repetition some very plain command—we began to get nervous. At last, through the twilight, we discerned that the French were pouring in. After the interval of doubt, our ears could gather that the swell and babble of the fight was

once more rolling down the inner face of the hill, and that the Russians were conclusively beaten. 'They are well into it this time,' says one to another, handing over the glass."

The desperate impetuosity of the French attack is described in another letter. "The arrangements had been made for taking and securing the large redoubt on the Mamelon hill, but it was not intended to go further at that moment. Such, however, was the impetuosity of the troops, such the excitement of the officers and men at their first success, that they could not resist the pursuit of the Russians on the one hand, or the attempt to storm the Malakhoff itself. Between the Malakhoff and Mamelon hills is a deep saddle-like hollow. Across this saddle, dipping down towards the right of the Malakhoff hill, is the ordinary way of communication between the Marine suburb and Mamelon. In this direction the Russian troops took their flight, and these and their pursuers were soon lost to sight behind the ridge. But the great body of the French troops moved straight across the saddle and mounted the Malakhoff hill. The Russians, aware of their danger, poured down a heavy fire upon the assailants from the batteries, and apparently brought field-pieces so as to take them in flank. In spite of these, the French still mounted, and at last were seen to reach the abatis' work drawn around the hill. So short a distance was this from the lower tier of batteries, that the Russians could no longer depress guns sufficiently to bear upon them; and, standing upon the parapets they were seen to throw large stones, besides keeping up a heavy musketry fire, against the French. The French had evidently met with difficulty they could not conquer; they were observed to be looking on all sides for an opportunity of advancing, but yet were unable to move on. Presently a sudden sense of their dangerous position seemed to seize them, and they retired back towards the Mamelon. The Russians by this time had assembled their reinforcements behind the Malakhoff works, and as the French were moving along the dip of the saddle towards the Mamelon, these troops were seen to come up in a dense mass, pouring a heavy flanking fire against our allies. At the same time they came within range of the guns of the works around the Malakhoff Tower, (the Korniloff Bastion,) which, notwithstanding the shower of the shell and rockets from our batteries, kept up a galling fire against the French as they retired. Some confusion ensued: the Russians followed the French into the Kamtschata redoubt, and the latter were next compelled to evacuate it. That was a time of deep anxiety for all who were watching the engagement. But confidence was again resumed when the French, who had descended the Mamelon hill, were seen to be steadily reforming in the Russian trenches which surrounded its base. Up they went again, sending a shower of balls among the Russians, who were now in crowds covering the parapets. The redoubt was fringed with smoke and flames from the fire of the Russian rifles against the French as they mounted the hill, and the hill-side was covered with the fire of the assailants. It was now a few minutes before eight o'clock; a dense bank of black clouds rested on the horizon, and the sun had just sunk behind it. The Russians made for some time a gallant resistance; but in vain; as the French mounted they were seen to waver, and just as the French reached the parapets, they leaped down and retired. Our allies were again masters of the Mamelon Vert. In vain the shipping in the harbour, the guns from their batteries on the west side of Careening Bay, and some on the north side of the roadstead, tried to drive them away. The guards were thrown out, and the working parties speedily set to work to turn the redoubt against its late possessors."

No event of importance took place till the 18th, when a combined attack was made on the Redan and the Malakhoff Tower, and proved unsuccessful. No detailed account of this unfortunate affair has as yet been given, though official lists of killed and wounded have been published. It appears that the Redan was attacked by the English and the Malakhoff by the French. The check experienced by the allies commenced with the springing of a mine by the Russians at a moment when the assaulting columns were on the point of establishing themselves

within the Russian lines. A considerable number of Russian troops lost their lives with the French and English by this explosion. In the recoil which followed, our allies, pressed by force of numbers, receded to the Mamelon and beyond it, and the Mamelon batteries were for a time in the power of the enemy. It was at this period that the English suffered most, being exposed in the position taken on the 7th to the flank fire of the guns on the Mamelon. The enemy was not suffered to remain in this regained work, but was attacked on the same night by the French, and driven back to the enceinte, our gallant allies remaining masters of the Mamelon.

The following is the list of officers killed on the 18th of June; Major-General Sir John Campbell; Colonel Yea, 7th Regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Shadforth, 57th Regiment; Lieutenant Meurant, 18th Regiment; Lieutenant Davies, 38th Regiment; Lieutenant Ashwin, 57th Regiment; Lieutenant Bellow, 33rd Regiment; Captain Shiffner, 5th Regiment; Captain Robinson, 34th Regiment; Lieutenant Hurt, 34th Regiment; Lieutenant Alt, 34th Regiment; Captain Forman, Rifle Brigade; Captain Jesse, Royal Engineers; Lieutenant Graves, Royal Engineers; Lieutenant Murray, Royal Engineers; Captain Fenwick, 44th Regiment; Captain the Hon. C. Agar, 44th Regiment; Captain Caulfield, 44th Regiment; Lieutenant and Adjutant Hobson, 7th Regiment.

WOUNDED:—*Second Division.* Lieut.-Col. J. Goodwin (41st Foot), slightly. *Third Division.* Staff-Commanding 2nd Brigade—Major-Gen. William Eyre, C.B., severely. 4th Foot—Col. Cobbe, severely. 9th Foot—Capt. F. Smith, dangerously, since dead; Lieut. and Adjt. M'Queen, severely; and Lieut. A. G. Douglas, slightly. 18th Foot—Major J. Clark Kennedy, slightly; Captains John Cormick and M. J. Heyman—both dangerously; and A. Armstrong and J. G. Wilkinso—both slightly; and Lieuts. W. Kemp and Fairfax Fearnley—both severely; and W. O. Bryen Taylor and Charles Hotham—both slightly. 28th Foot—Caps. H. R. C. Godley and J. D. Malcom—both severely; and J. G. R. Apilin, slightly; and Lieut. F. Brodigan, severely. 38th Foot—Lieut.-Col. J. J. Lowth; Caps. Hon. C. Addington and Ludford Daniel; and Lieuts. J. B. French and H. B. Feilden—all severely. 44th Foot—Col. Hon. A. Spencer, slightly; Capt. W. H. Mansfield, dangerously; Lieuts. J. Logan and T. O. Howorth, severely. *Fourth Division.* Staff-Capt. A. Snodgrass (38th Foot), severely; Lieut. Image (21st Foot), slightly. 7th Foot—Lieut. Hon. E. Fitzelarence, dangerously; Major Pack, and Lieuts. Jones and C. Malan—all severely; Lieuts. Lord R. Browne, G. H. Waller, and W. L. G. Wright—all slightly; and Capt. F. Appleyard, slight confusion. 20th Foot—Lieut.-Col. Eveleigh, Lieut. J. S. O'Neil, and Ensign F. G. Holmes, all slightly. 23rd Foot—Lieut.-Col. D. Lyons, severely. 33rd Foot—Capt. Quayle, dangerously; Lieut.-Col. J. D. Johnston and Capt. Thomas Wickham, both severely; and Lieut.-Col. G. V. Mundy and Lieut. J. T. Rogers—both slightly. 34th Foot—Capt. J. Jordan, Lieuts. Harman and R. B. Clayton—all severely; and Capt. J. Gwilt and Lieut. F. Peel—both slightly. 57th Foot—Brevet-Major Earle, Caps. Norman, Lea, and St. Clair, and Lieuts. Venables and A. F. A. Slade—all severely. 88th Foot—Capt. G. R. Browne, dangerously. 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade—Lieut. C. A. P. Boileau, severely. 2nd Battalion, Rifle Brigade—Lieuts. J. S. Knox, dangerously; F. Fremantle, severely. Royal Artillery—Second-Capt. W. J. Williams, slightly. Royal Engineers—Lieut.-Col. R. Tylden, severely; Major-General Harry Jones, and Brevet-Major and Brigade-Major E. F. Bouchier—both slightly. *Missing.* 7th Foot—Lieut. N. D. Robinson. 33rd Foot—Lieut. Heyland.

The loss of non-commissioned officers and men is stated to be; killed, 144; wounded, 1058; missing, 150.

The latest intelligence is contained in the two following telegraphic despatches, received by the Minister of War from General Pelissier:—“June 19.—The besieged, notwithstanding our failure of yesterday, which they will doubtless exaggerate considerably, grew alarmed last night, and for a long time they kept up a fire from

all their guns at empty space. To-day, at 4 o'clock, there was an armistice for burying the dead.”

“June 20.—The besieged, closely pressed on the side of the Central Ravine, are setting fire to the little faubourg at the extremity of the southern port. We are erecting batteries with guns of heavy calibre on the works captured on the 7th of June, which threaten more directly the great port.”

The accounts from the Crimea in last month's “Narrative” came down to the landing of the expedition of the allied forces at Kertch without opposition. The details of this event, and of the subsequent important successes of the expedition, are given in despatches from the English and French commanders of the land and sea forces; Sir Edmund Lyons, Admiral Bruat, Sir George Brown, and General Autemarre. From these we learn, that the land force consisted of fifteen thousand men and five batteries of artillery; the naval force, of thirty-three English and nearly as many French ships of war, with a proportionate quantity of transports. The British force was composed of the Highland Brigade and fifty men of the 8th Hussars; the rest were French and Turks. They landed on the 24th May, at Kamiesch Bourru, a few miles south of Kertch, and experienced no resistance. One after another the Russians blew up their forts; and Admiral Bruat estimates the quantity of powder burnt in the different explosions at 100,000 kilogrammes. The explosion of nearly a third of that amount at Yenikale was felt, he says, ten miles out at sea.

Admiral Lyons relates an incident that called forth the admiration of both fleets, and deserves to be particularly mentioned:—“Lieutenant M'Killop, whose gun-vessel, the Snake, was not employed like the others in landing troops, dashed past the forts after an enemy's steamer; and, although he soon found himself engaged not only with her but also with two others who came to her support, he persevered, and by the cleverness and extreme rapidity of his manoeuvres, prevented the escape of all three, and they were consequently destroyed by the enemy; and the Snake had not a man hurt, though shot passed through the vessel.”

Admiral Bruat also notices this act of gallantry:—“Shortly afterwards, an English gun-boat, of a light draft of water, made for Yenikale, to cut out a Russian steamer which had left Kertch and was trying to gain the Sea of Azoff. A sharp encounter soon commenced between the two vessels, in which the batteries of Yenikale took part. I ordered the Fulton to proceed to hasten to the aid of the gunboat; which arrived with all speed at the scene of combat, and had to withstand a very heavy fire. I ordered the Megire to support her, and Admiral Lyons on his part also ordered succour to be given to the gun-boat. Nevertheless, the enemy's steamer which we knew had the treasury of Kertch on board, escaped, leaving in our hands two barges containing precious objects and a portion of the military and civil archives. But the confusion of the Russians, attacked unexpectedly by land and sea, became so great that they soon relinquished all thoughts of further resistance, and did not even take care to remove the wounded from Sebastopol who were in the hospital of the citadel.”

Sir George Brown and General d'Autemarre describe the landing of the troops and their subsequent proceedings. It appears that the large ships could not get within three miles, and the transports only within two miles of the point of the coast selected for a landing. The troops were conveyed to the beach in boats, towed by small steamers, whose guns covered the disembarkation. At ten o'clock the first soldiers stepped ashore, and, occupying a rising ground near a salt marsh, covered the disembarkation of the remainder. It was soon after the landing of the first men of the force that the Russians began to blow up their batteries and retire; and before night all the batteries between Kamiesch Bourru and Kertch were blown up. Sir George Brown was precluded from advancing, because most of the Turkish troops and artillery had not landed. He therefore encamped for the night, in the best position he could, but exposed to the attacks of any adventurous Cossacks who might be disposed to do mischief. When the morning broke,

there still remained much to be done in the way of embarkation; but Sir George strongly felt the necessity of moving, and at six in the morning the troops began their march on Kertch and Yenikale. "The town of Kertch," he says, "is clean, and remarkably well built, and the troops passed through it with the greatest regularity, and without the slightest disorder. Subsequently the day became excessively hot; and, the march being a long one, the men suffered greatly from fatigue and want of water, which was only to be found at occasional wells. We managed to get in here [Yenikale], however, by one o'clock; where we were soon after visited by the three admirals, and found a large squadron of small steamers and gun-boats, ready to proceed into the sea of Azoff, under the command of Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*."

From a despatch written by General d'Autemarre on the 29th of May, we learn that the forces of the allies were intrenched both at Kertch and at Yenikale. At Kertch the French general had encamped his men in a good position; the approaches of which were defended nearly on all sides by natural obstacles difficult to be overcome, and he proposed strengthening them still more. According to Sir Edmund Lyons, Sir George Brown confidently expected that Yenikale would be in such a state of defence as would justify him in leaving it in charge of the Turks; so that the British and French troops might be at liberty to reduce Anapa and Soujak Kale. General d'Autemarre's despatch gives information of great interest:—"Among the establishments we have been able to preserve, is the military hospital. It is capable of containing from 100 to 150 sick. This hospital consisted of three buildings connected with each other; two of them were destroyed either by fire or by the explosion of the batteries. These buildings could easily have contained 350 or 400 sick. We found in the hospital 30 Russians, nearly all of them wounded at Sebastopol. In the neighbouring villages a great number had been billeted upon the inhabitants, and were visited by the army surgeons. One of these surgeons, a Saxon by birth, repaired to my head-quarters on the very evening of my arrival. He is employed, under the direction of the chief of the ambulances, to attend to the Russian wounded in our hands. This officer has assured me that General Wrangel had recently received orders from Prince Gortschakoff to prepare places for 10,000 to 15,000 wounded. The peninsula of Yenikale offers considerable resources in forage and cattle: although I have no cavalry, I was able to capture 250 oxen and as many sheep, which will serve to feed the division during my sojourn here. I ordered the oxen to be distributed between the French and English squadrons. General Brown, who has been reinforced by 50 Hussars, purposed carrying off the flocks in the vicinity of the place. The town of Kertch is very rich. I think advantageous markets for the army might be established there. The population is industrious and given to trade, and has nearly all remained. That of Yenikale, on the contrary, followed the garrison. Forty families returned yesterday [the 28th of May]. The number of troops intrusted with the defence of the peninsula may be estimated at 6,000 men. General Wrangel, who commanded them, had repeatedly asked for reinforcements. A letter from Prince Gortschakoff which has fallen into our hands, informs the general, that not only will he not receive the reinforcements demanded, but that he must send in all his cavalry to Sebastopol. The sanitary condition of the division is excellent; I have very few sick. The soldiers are in excellent spirits, full of ardour and good-humour."

On the 25th May, Sir Edmund Lyons in the *Banshee*, and Admiral Brut in the *Laplace*, accompanied the steam flotilla of fourteen English and five French vessels into the Sea of Azoff, and despatched them on a cruise under Captain Lyons in the *Miranda*. Captain Lyons gives details of his operations. He says:—"On the morning of the 28th, we arrived off Arabat, and engaged the fort (mounting 30 guns) for an hour and a half; at the end of which time a shell blew up the enemy's magazine. The ships having been ordered to keep at shell-range, and being well handled, had only one casualty, the chief engineer of the *Medina*

being slightly wounded by a splinter: the French senior officer's ship received two shots in the hull, but fortunately no one was hurt. The enemy must have lost many men, from the precision with which the shells burst in his works, independently of that caused by the explosion."

On the evening of the 28th, the flotilla arrived off Genitchi, and joined the *Swallow* and *Wrangler*, which had been watching the straits during the absence of the flotilla at Arabat. Seventy-three vessels had passed the straits, "which are only fifty yards wide, and are commanded by the low cliffs on which the town is built, and were moored inside under the cliff." Captain Lyons sent in a flag of truce, and demanded the surrender of the vessels, stores of corn, and government property; promising to respect the town and private property. The Russians declined to comply with these terms; and drew up six field-pieces, 200 Cossacks, and a battalion of infantry. Three hours were given for a re-consideration of the refusal; and that time having elapsed, the steamers placed as near as the depth of water would allow, bombarded the town at long range, so effectually that the boats, under Lieutenant Mackenzie, got safely through the passage, set fire to the ships, and returned without accident. "The wind having shifted about two hours after the boats came off, some of the corn-stores did not catch fire. Conceiving the destruction of this corn, as well as of some more distant vessels in so favourable a position for supplying the Russian armies in the Crimea to be of the utmost importance, I sent the boats again, commanded and officered as before; although I was aware that, from the enemy having had time to make preparations, it would be a hazardous enterprise. The ships accordingly resumed their fire upon the town, and the boats proceeded. Lieutenant Cecil W. Buckley, of this ship, Lieutenant Hugh T. Burgoyne, of the *Swallow*, and Mr. John Roberts, gunner of the *Ardent*, volunteered to land alone and fire the stores. This offer I accepted, knowing the eminent risk there would be in landing a party in presence of such superior force, and out of gunshot of the ships. This very dangerous service they most gallantly performed, narrowly escaping the Cossacks, who all but cut them off from their boat. At the same time, Lieutenant Mackenzie pushed on and burnt the remaining vessels; the enemy opening a fire from four field-guns and musketry placed within point blank range of the boats. Everything being now effectually accomplished, the boats returned. Although several of them were struck with grape and case shot, most fortunately one man was slightly wounded. Lieutenant Mackenzie speaks in high terms of the coolness and excellent behaviour of all employed under his orders: and I trust I may be allowed to bring to your notice the conspicuous merit of Lieutenant Mackenzie himself on this occasion, when more than ninety vessels, and also corn for the Russian army of the value of 100,000*l.*, were destroyed, owing to his gallantry and ability, with so trifling a loss as one man slightly wounded."

Subsequently, as the telegraph informs us, Captain Lyons visited on the 3rd, 5th, and 6th June, Mariopol, Taganrog, and Ghiesk, and destroyed all they could. At Taganrog they were opposed by 3500 men; but only one of our men was wounded.

One of the immediate effects of the expedition to the Sea of Azoff is very remarkable—the Russians have abandoned the important fortress of Anapa, and retreated across the Kuban, while the Circassians are in possession of this last stronghold of Russian power on their coast.

Sir Edmund Lyons, writing on the 2nd of June, thus estimates the prizes of the expedition up to that time:—"It now appears that more than one hundred guns have fallen into our hands in the different sea defences, many of them of heavy calibre, and remarkably well cast. Those which may not be required for the land defences which the allied armies are now constructing will be shipped and sent to England and France. It has been ascertained from the custom-house returns, that the enemy, on evacuating Kertch, on the 24th ultimo, destroyed 4,166,000 pounds of corn and 508,000 pounds of flour. This quantity, taken together with

What has been destroyed by the allied squadrons in the Sea of Azoff, comprises nearly four months' rations for an army of 100,000 men; and it seems that shortly before our arrival the enemy had commenced sending towards Sebastopol daily convoys of about 1500 waggons, each containing half-a-ton weight of grain or flour."

The latest accounts of the expedition are contained in a despatch from Lord Raglan, dated 12th inst., "My Lord,—In my despatch of the 5th instant, I informed your lordship that the Russians had evacuated Soujak Kale on the 28th May. I have now the satisfaction to acquaint you that they withdrew from Anapa on the 5th instant, and thus they have abandoned their last stronghold on the coast of Circassia. Intelligence of this event was brought to Sir E. Lyons by Captain Hughes, who, in his zealous endeavour to give the Admiral the earliest intimation of it, went from Soujak to Kertch, in an open boat, and on passing Anapa, observed it was burning, it having been set on fire by the Circassians. Captain Hughes, who arrived here yesterday, entertains no doubt that the enemy have retired across the Kuban. The abandonment of Anapa is one of the fruits of the attack and capture of Kertch, and of the brilliant operations of the allied naval forces in the Sea of Azoff, where no flag now flies but that of England and France. The Alma has returned from Kertch, having on board the 72nd and 63rd, whose services ceased to be required as soon as it was known that Anapa had been abandoned."

The utmost horror and indignation have been excited by the news of an atrocious *Massacre of an English Boat's Crew bearing a Flag of Truce*, who landed at Hango in the Baltic, for the purpose of liberating several prisoners. The first intelligence of this deed, contained in a telegraphic despatch from Admiral Dundas, was read in the House of Commons by Sir C. Wood on Monday evening the 18th instant. Further particulars are given in a more detailed despatch from Admiral Dundas, and private letters.

It appears that the Cossack and the Esk, cruising off Hango, discovered several boats of the kind employed ostensibly in conveying wood to Cronstadt; and the armed boats of both ships were sent in to take and destroy them. This they accomplished, capturing also three prisoners. The Admiral directed that the prisoners should be set at liberty. With them the Cossack carried four other prisoners, taken by the Magicienne; and proceeded to Hango Head, where the men desired to be landed. On the 5th of June, having perfect confidence that a boat protected by a flag of truce would not be molested, Captain Fanshawe despatched the prisoners in the cutter, under charge of Lieutenant Geneste. Besides the boat's crew and the prisoners, the officers' stewards, and the surgeon of the Cossack, Mr. Easton, were also allowed to go. The Cossack did not run in to cover the boat, as her captain believed that "it was in accordance with usage that the ship should stay out of gunshot on such an occasion." The cutter was seen from the ship to near the shore with the white flag flying, until it disappeared behind a rocky island. No blank guns were fired, no demonstrations were made which could be considered hostile. The officer in charge was not to suffer any one to stray from the boat; but, should it occasion no detention, the stewards were to be allowed to buy any provisions that might be offered. The course of the boat was in full view of the telegraph station; so that the enemy had ample time to warn off the boat had he seen fit to do so. The cutter disappeared, and did not return. Alarmed by her absence, Captain Fanshawe sent the gig with a flag of truce, to ascertain the cause of the delay. Evening came, and neither of the boats returned; and the Cossack and the Esk anchored in the inner roads. About half-past eight, the gig came in, and reported that the cutter had been seen hauled within a small jetty, and containing the dead bodies of two or three of her crew. Hearing this, it was determined to take the ships closer in; but before they could weigh, the cutter was seen to move from the jetty, sculled by one man at the stern. A boat instantly went to her aid; and when she was brought in, four dead bodies were found in her, riddled with musket-balls. The "one" man yet alive was John

Brown. He was dangerously wounded with a shot through the fore-arm, and a bullet in the shoulder. It is from his lips that we obtain the particulars of the massacre. As the boat approached the landing-place, only one man appeared, and he ran away; so that Lieutenant Geneste had no kind of warning. The officers and prisoners stepped ashore, and landed the baggage. At this stage of the proceedings some three hundred soldiers suddenly appeared, and began firing at the officers and prisoners. Lieutenant Geneste waved the white flag, and called out "Flag of true!" an old Finn did the same, using their own language. The leader of the gang, in tolerable English, replied—"We don't care a damn for flags of truce; we will show how Russians fight;" and instantly a volley of musketry laid the officers and prisoners low on the jetty. The ruffians, yelling fiercely, next fired into the boat at fifteen paces, until every man was down. They then jumped in, turned over the bodies to get out the arms, bayonetted those still alive, and flung some overboard. To show the relentless character of the butchery, Captain Fanshawe mentions that "the body of one of the men found dead in the boat, had two shots through the leg, which he had had time to bandage with a silk-handkerchief before he received two other fatal wounds in the abdomen and head." Brown escaped by feigning to be dead. It is conjectured from the fact that the man who led the enemy carried a musket, that he was a noncommissioned officer.

The same evening, Captain Fanshawe opened fire upon the place at 600 yards, until a fog came on. Admiral Dundas, in his despatch, exonerates Captain Fanshawe from all blame, and says that he cannot discover any circumstance that may serve to excuse or palliate the cruel conduct of the enemy. In order to be sure of the facts of the case, so far as they could be ascertained, and also to discover whether Captain Fanshawe had taken all proper precaution in sending ashore the flag of truce, Admiral Dundas addressed to him the following important questions:—1st, What were the circumstances which rendered it necessary to select an opportunity for landing the prisoners in question, when the boat was unsupported by the immediate presence of the ship on command, and when the display of a flag of truce from her own mast-head would have obviated all misunderstanding as to her object? 2nd, What were the particular instructions given to the officer in charge of the boat; and what opportunities were afforded to the enemy to grant or to reject conditions of truce before the party had actually landed upon his coast? 3rd, What was the distance of the boat from the ship when last seen previous to her landing, and what at that time was her distance from shore? 4th, When and at what distance from the shore was a flag of truce first displayed; and were any blank guns or muskets fired at the moment; and is the officer in charge of the boat supposed to have had any reason for believing it to have been acknowledged by the enemy on shore? 5th, At what distance from the shore were the riflemen of the enemy first seen on the jetty by the crew of the Cossack's cutter? 6th, Was any assent, implied or understood, supposed to have been granted by the Russian officer on shore to the landing of the prisoners or crew?" Having received full replies to these queries, Admiral Dundas thus expresses his opinion—"No appearance can be given to have been omitted by the officer in charge of the boat to make known the object of his mission; and if their lordships should see reason to regret that she was detached beyond the reach of protection from the ship, I feel assured they will do justice to the explanations of Captain Fanshawe."

It appears from subsequent accounts, that five of the boat's crew were killed, and that the remainder, including the three officers, are prisoners.

The Russian version of this affair is given in the *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 13th instant.—"The Commander of the Forces in Finland, Adjutant-General von Berg, reports a very successful skirmish, which took place not far from Hango Udd, between our volunteers of the second battalion of the King of Prussia Grenadier Regiment and a part of the crew of the English frigate Cossack. The affair took place as follows: On June 5th, at noon, the frigate Cossack appeared in the roads

off Hango Udd, and sent off a boat, which came ashore in the vicinity of the telegraph, and landed a small party under the command of some officers there. Ensign Sswertschhoff, of the King of Prussia's Grenadier regiment, to whom this portion of the coast is entrusted, having been early informed of this enterprise of the enemy, concentrated some men of his detachment behind a building opposite the landing-place, and another portion, under the sub-officer, Peter Pawloff, he detached along the beach to cut off the retreat of the English. The enemy, attacked on a sudden, defended himself but feebly, and laid down his arms. The success of this affair must be ascribed to the coolness and the foresight of Ensign Sswertschhoff. The loss of the enemy amounts to five killed: there were taken prisoners, one officer, one surgeon, one marine (*garde marin*), and eight sailors, of which latter four were wounded. In addition to the above our troops made spoil of the flag of the boat, seven muskets, and seven cutlasses. The boat itself, with one cannon on board, was sunk. On the following morning the English frigate came in close to Hango Udd, and fired at the buildings for about an hour and half, but without doing them any great harm."

A telegraphic despatch from Dantzig of the 21st, announces the arrival there of the Lightning with the mails. She brought word that Lieutenant Geneste, Dr. Easton, and Mr. Sullivan, are prisoners, but wounded.

Some temporary alarm has been excited at Paris by a rather severe illness of the Emperor. It is said that he was taken ill on the 16th, after attending a council of Ministers; that he went to bed early; that he was bled twice; and that the Empress sat up with him the whole night. But he appears to have soon recovered.

The Senate and Legislative Body have been convoked for the 2nd July. The *Moniteur* tells us that "this convocation is not at all unexpected, as at the close of

last session the government informed the Senators and the Deputies that financial measures would soon render their reassembling necessary."

It is generally believed that the Austrian government has decided on the temporary reduction of the army. The very prevalent reports on this head have not been contradicted in any quarter. The Emperor on his tour of inspection along the Gallician frontier, had visited Cracow, and had proceeded to the Bukowina, where he would be met by Count Coronini.

The Emperor of Russia and his brother Constantine recently paid a visit to Cronstadt, and carefully examined all the defences. Before he departed, the Emperor gave each soldier a rouble, and, assembling the officers, spoke to this effect—"The eyes of the whole world are again directed towards Cronstadt, that impregnable key to St. Petersburg; that advanced post of the fortress of Peter and Paul; that other Sebastopol, which would in its turn know how to brave all the attacks of the enemy."

In order, it is supposed, to save expense at this critical period in the fortunes of Russia, the Emperor has suppressed the court of the heir-apparent, and has ordered that it shall be blended with that of the Emperor.

That he might root out the habits of corruption existing amongst the public functionaries, the Emperor Nicholas, a little before his death, had ordered that every judgment should be made public, with the names of the offenders. This order was carried into execution on the 4th of May, for the first time. By order of his Majesty, the President of the Tribunal of Arrondissement of Nobles, Goloschtschapoff, Captain Wasfil Dolgoff, Councillor Skopinski, and the secretary Von Nordstern, are cashiered and excluded for ever from serving his Majesty, for sundry offences, deficits, and irregularities in their accounts.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

LAST month's list of new books is not much less scanty than its predecessor, but it comprises a few publications of greater importance. The first entitled to mention is *A Memoir of the Rev. Sydney Smith*, by his daughter, Lady Holland, with *A Selection from his Letters*, edited by Mrs. Austin. This work is in two octavo volumes. In the same form, also, Sir David Brewster has published *Memoirs of the Life, Writings, and Discoveries of Sir Isaac Newton*. The first part of the *Works of Doctor Thomas M'Crie*, comprising the well-known Life of John Knox, has appeared. The first volume of the long announced *Life of George Washington*, by Washington Irving, has been issued simultaneously here and in America. The Rev. Edward Tagart has published a volume on *Locke's Writings and Philosophy Historically Considered*, and Mr. Thomas Keightley a similar volume on the *Life, Opinions, and Writings of Milton*. Other miscellaneous works of mark have also made their appearance. Doctor Smith has completed his edition of *Gibbon's Decline and Fall* in Mr. Murray's British Classics, and has sent forth the most elaborate *Latin English Dictionary*, founded on Forellini and Freund, that has yet been attempted by any English scholar. Sir William Hamilton's edition of *Dugald Stewart's Works* has reached its seventh volume, containing the *Active and Moral Powers*. Mr. Curran has republished, with several original additions, his *Sketches of the Irish Bar*. Mr. Howitt has published his Australian and Digging Experiences under the title of *Land, Labour, and Gold; or Two Years in Victoria*. Mr. Beste has described, in two volumes called *The Wabash*, the adventures of a gentleman's family in search of a location in the interior of America. A learned volume on *Phoenicia* has appeared. Mr. Warren has abridged and adapted to the existing law *Blackstone's Commentaries*. Mr. Cayley has given us a voluminous of notes to his translation of

Dante's Divine Comedy. The Hon. A. Murray has written his experiences of Cuba, the United States, and Canada, in two volumes on *Lands of the Slave and Free*. Mr. Keith Johnston has published an excellent *Atlas of Astronomy*; and Professor Eastwick has edited a new edition of the Hindi text, with a perfectly literal English translation, of a celebrated eastern collection of *Twenty-Five Tales of a Demon*. Nor has the war failed to contribute its quota to the past month's literature. From Mr. Danby Seymour, M.P., we have a volume about *Russia on the Black Sea and Sea of Azoff*; from Mr. Piper, a *Popular Military and Naval Dictionary of War Implements and War Terms*; from Lieut. Col. Hough, a large volume of *Precedents in Military Law*; and from Lord De Ros, a *Tour in the Crimea*. Finally may be mentioned, the commencement of a popular edition of *Henry Hallam's Historical Works*; a collection of *Stories from a Screen*, by Dudley Costello; a little book on *The Louvre, or Biography of a Museum*, by Mr. Bayle St. John; a similar volume on *Imperial Paris*, by Mr. Blanchard Jerrold; *A Companion in Verse for the English Prayer Book*, by Mr. Robert Montgomery; a treatise by Mr. Geo. Vanderschaff, on *The Art of Elocution*; a novel called *Next Door Neighbours*; the Burnet Prize Treatise, on *Theism*, by Doctor Tulloch; *Aspern Court*, a novel by Mr. Shirley Brooks; a volume called *The Physician for All*, by Doctor Spurgin; a *History of the Suppression of Infanteide*, by Doctor John Wilson; an illustration, by Miss Twining, from the Art of the Early and Middle Ages, of *Types and Figures of the Bible*; a tragedy by Mr. Archer Gurney, on *Iphigenia at Delphi*; a volume of poetry, the *Music Master, a Love Story*, with other poems, by Mr. Allingham; a novel called *The Jealous Wife*, by Miss Pardoe; a metrical romance, *The Briar of Thieve and the Lily of Burholm*, by Mr. Henry Inglis; and an elaborate volume on *The Senses and the Intellect*, by Alexander Bain.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 16th inst., £18,000,716.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz.	£3 17 9	Silver bars, stan. per oz.	5 1 1
Do., dust,	3 16 0	Mexican dollars,	4 11 5

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS
TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0.68 disct.	New York	0.67 disct.
Hamburgh	0.71 pr.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 4 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	92 <i>1</i> ₂	90 <i>1</i> ₂	91 <i>1</i> ₂
Three per Cent. Reduced	92 <i>1</i> ₂	91	92 <i>1</i> ₂
New Three per Cents	92 <i>1</i> ₂	91 <i>1</i> ₂	92 <i>1</i> ₂
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4	3 <i>1</i> ₂	3 <i>1</i> ₂
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	211 <i>1</i> ₂	208	210 <i>1</i> ₂ -11 <i>1</i> ₂
Exchequer Bills, March.	29	14	14-18
India Bonds	30	12	30

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	103 <i>1</i> ₂	100 <i>1</i> ₂	102	225,487
11 <i>2</i> 6 <i>3</i>	Blackwall	8	7 <i>1</i> ₂	7 <i>1</i> ₂	25,484
100	Caledonian	65 <i>1</i> ₂	63 <i>1</i> ₂	63 <i>1</i> ₂	223,902
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	60	58 <i>1</i> ₂	58 <i>1</i> ₂	94,811
20	Eastern Counties ..	12 <i>2</i> ₁	11 <i>2</i> ₁	12 <i>2</i> ₁	423,532
100	Gt. Sn. & Wn. (Irel.)	102	96 <i>1</i> ₂	100 <i>1</i> ₂	118,491
100	Great Northern	93 <i>1</i> ₂	92 <i>1</i> ₂	90 <i>1</i> ₂	379,457
100	Great Western	60 <i>1</i> ₂	67 <i>1</i> ₂	67 <i>1</i> ₂	476,863
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	93 <i>1</i> ₂	79 <i>1</i> ₂	81 <i>1</i> ₂	384,144
100	London & N. Westn.	104 <i>1</i> ₂	101 <i>1</i> ₂	102 <i>1</i> ₂	1,043,039
100	London & S. Westn.	85 <i>1</i> ₂	83 <i>1</i> ₂	83 <i>1</i> ₂	257,932
100	Midland	73 <i>1</i> ₂	72 <i>1</i> ₂	74 <i>1</i> ₂	496,256
100	South-East. & Dover	64	61 <i>1</i> ₂	63 <i>1</i> ₂	289,488

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.	RAILWAYS.
Belgian 4 <i>1</i> ₂ per cent., 93-5	East Belgian Junct., 2 <i>1</i> ₂
Brazilian 5 per cent., 100-5	Great W. of Canada 21 <i>1</i> ₂
Chilian 6 per cent., 102-4	Great Luxembourg, 4 <i>1</i> ₂
Danish 5 per cent., 100-2	Northern of France, 36 <i>1</i> ₂
Dutch 2 <i>1</i> ₂ per cent., 64-6	Norwegian Trunk Pref., 80
Dutch 4 p. cent. cert., 94-6	Paris and Orleans, 46-8
Mexican 3 per cent., 21 <i>1</i> ₂	Paris and Lyons, 48 <i>1</i> ₂
Peruvian 3 per cent., 49-51	Paris and Rouen, 47-7
Portuguese 4 per cent., 44-6	Rouen and Havre, 24 <i>1</i> ₂
Russian 5 per cent., 99	West Flanders, 33 <i>1</i> ₂
Spanish 3 per cent., 38-9	West of France, 29 <i>1</i> ₂
Sardinian 5 per cent., 85-7	

MINES.

Linares	7 <i>1</i> ₂	Quartz Roek	5 <i>1</i> ₂
Nouveau Monde	4 <i>1</i> ₂	St. John Del Rey	28-30

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.	BANKS.
Australian	11-3
Colonial Gold	2 <i>1</i> ₂
Great Nugget	2 <i>1</i> ₂
Port Philip	4 <i>1</i> ₂
South Australian	2 <i>1</i> ₂

RAILWAYS.	STEAM COMPANIES.
Bombay and Baroda, 20-4	Australasian Pacific
East Indian	Australasian Royal Mail 33 <i>1</i> ₂
Do., Extension 2 <i>1</i> ₂	Eastern Steam Navig.
Indian Peninsula.	General Screw St. Ship 14 <i>1</i> ₂
Madras	Pen. & Orient St. Nav. 61-3

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural	North Brit. Australian 3 <i>1</i> ₂
Van Diemen's Land.	Peel River Land ... 25 <i>1</i> ₂
South Australian Land 38-39	Scottish Austr. Invest. 14 <i>1</i> ₂

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Benns.	Peas.
May 26	76 10	32 11	28 1	44 5	45 2	40 3
June 2	77 7	33 2	28 2	44 7	46 4	42 3
— 9	77 5	33 11	28 10	47 4	46 3	42 1
— 16	77 5	34 0	28 7	45 10	46 6	43 6

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. d.					
Malt, Pale, per qr.	64 2	60 3	60 3	60 3	5 0	5 5
Malting Barley	32	33	33	33	4 10	6 10
Oats, best	27	30	30	30	1 4	1 13
Straw	75	83	83	83	12 02	12 02
Flour—						
Town made, persk.	65	70	70	70	70	70
Country household	51	58	58	58	12 08	12 08
American, per bushl.	38	44	44	44	23 08	23 08
Indian Corn, per qr.	47	50	50	50	12 08	12 08
CATTLE—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
Beasts, per st.	3	8	8	8		
Calves	8	8	8	8		
Sheep	3	8	8	8		
Pigs	3	6	6	6		
Wool, per lb.	1	1	1	1		
South Downs.	1	0	1	1		
Kentish fleeces	1	0	1	1		
German Prima 2	6	3	6	6		
Australian 1	3	2	2	2		
Cape	0	7	1	5		
Spanish	1	1	1	1		

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 12 <i>1</i> ₂ .
Iron, Pigs, 3 <i>1</i> ₂ ds. to 5 <i>1</i> ₂ ds.
Lead, English Pig, 2 <i>1</i> ₂ ds. Steel, Swedish Pig, 1 <i>1</i> ₂ ds. Tin, English block, 11 <i>1</i> ₂ ; Banca, 11 <i>1</i> ₂ to 11 <i>1</i> ₂ ; Spelter, 2 <i>1</i> ₂ ds.; Quick-silver, per lb. 1s. 10 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 1 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
Spikes, &c. — Market, 96 lb., 4 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 5 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 6 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 7 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 8 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 10 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 12 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 14 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 16 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 18 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 20 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 22 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 24 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 26 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 28 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 30 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 32 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 34 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 36 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 38 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; 40 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
Gallipoli, per ton, 55 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Sperm Oil, 13 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 16 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Pale Seal, 53 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Rape, 54 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 56 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Cocoa-nut, 4 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 44 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Palm, 4 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 44 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Linseed, 3 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
TALLOW — Australian, Beef, 4 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 49 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Sheep, 4 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 51 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Y. C., 5 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 5 <i>1</i> ₂ d.

GROCERY.

Cocoa, per ewt., Trinidad, 37 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 46 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Bahia, 33 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 34 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
Coffee, per ewt., Ceylon Native, 46 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 48 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Do., Plantation, 56 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 58 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Mocha, 78 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 90 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Jamaica, 78 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 81 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Java, 51 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 55 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Costa Rica, 57 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 72 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
Rice, per ewt., Carolina duty paid, 26 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 36 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Bengal, 13 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 15 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
SUGAR—Barbadoes, per ewt., 35 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 41 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Mauritius, 34 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 38 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Bengal, 37 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 42 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Madras, 31 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 33 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Havannah, 35 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 39 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
Do. REFINED—Grocery lumps, 47 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 51 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Biscuits, 30 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 36 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Crispid, 30 <i>1</i> ₂ d.
Tea, per lb. (duty 1 <i>1</i> ₂ d.)—Congou, 8 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 1 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Souchong, 9 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 2 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Hyson, 1 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 3 <i>1</i> ₂ d.; Assam, 1 <i>1</i> ₂ d. to 4 <i>1</i> ₂ d.

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies	British America	United States	Other places.	Total.
To April 30	22,842	4,584	34,816	701	62,943
May	4,742	4,519	12,514	225	29,000
Total to May 31	27,584	9,103	47,330	926	84,943

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£35 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £20	£2 10 to £23 5
Sydney	40 — 65	22 — 35	18 — 25	2 5 — 2 10
Adeelaide	36 — 62	22 — 33	15 — 24	2 5 — 2 10
Hobart Tn.	36 — 65	22 — 35	15 — 25	2 5 — 2 10

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH JUNE TO THE 27TH JULY.

{ PRICE 2d.
{ STAMPED 2d.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Tuesday, June 26, Lord LYNDHURST called attention to the *Treaty of the 2nd of December, 1854*, and the Vienna conferences, his reason for making the motion being to obtain some explanation from Lord Clarendon as to the present position of Austria with regard to the allies. He proceeded to contrast the relative positions of Austria and Prussia, and to show, however servile the latter power might have shown herself on all occasions to Russia, that better things were to have been expected from Austria, who yet had missed a grand opportunity of vindicating her own rights and maintaining her own interests by entering into an offensive and defensive alliance with France and England. Instead of doing this, after deceiving those powers in every way during the recent diplomatic proceedings, she had virtually declared her neutrality, and it was impossible to avoid the conclusion that she had a secret understanding with Russia, acting on which she had withdrawn her troops from the Gallician frontier, and disbanded a great portion of her army. There could not be a doubt that our recent plenipotentiary to Vienna, however great his ability, had been deceived by false hopes and promises of peace, and there was as little doubt that the conduct of the late government, in deserting the seat of government at a most important crisis of the campaign, and leaving the war to its fate, while they betook themselves to their country seats, was disgraceful in the extreme. Popular indignation had driven that government from power. It was not for him to say how far Lord Palmerston had realised the expectations of the public, but he warned him that nothing but the greatest vigour, decision, and activity could maintain him in the position which he now filled.—Lord CLARENDON thought, in spite of the able statement of Lord Lyndhurst, that no good could arise from the censure which he had cast upon Austria. The indiscriminate blame which had been heaped on her in particular and Germany in general had greatly estranged the sympathies of that country, which had once been with the allies, and diverted them into another channel. So far as the government were concerned, it would have been an unpardonable oversight to neglect to secure the co-operation of Austria, and this the government had done; but, while showing great deference to Austria, they had not allowed that feeling to influence their preparations for war; and though they diplomatised at Vienna, the warlike operations before Sebastopol were carried on with the utmost vigour. Even now nothing could be further from his intention than to create any misunderstanding with Austria; her conduct neither justified censure nor merited praise, and the result of the recent negotiations with her, though they had failed, had left England and France free and unfettered to make peace on their own terms.

On Thursday, June 28, the Duke of RICHMOND asked Lord Panmure whether the government was about to take any steps to *Increase the Comfort of Soldiers in Barracks*, and whether *Recruiting for the Regular Army was Proceeding in a Satisfactory Manner?*—Lord PANMURE replied that the point to which the first part of the Duke of Richmond's observations referred had been long under the attention of the government, who, though they might differ from the noble duke as to the best way of effecting that object, would certainly do everything in their power to advance the comfort of

the soldier. With regard to the second question, it could not be denied, though recruiting was going on at the rate of 1000 men a-week, that the total force of the British army was far below the amount voted by parliament. The government had therefore determined to endeavour to make the service more attractive by giving double pay to every soldier actively engaged before the enemy. This additional pay it was proposed to invest in savings banks until the soldier's return, or, if he fell, it would be paid to his relatives. This scheme would be made public in a few days by proclamation, and he trusted it would be found to answer better than the increase of bounty which had been proposed.

On Friday, June 29, in reply to the Earl of MALMESBURY, Lord PANMURE contradicted the report which had been circulated that Lord Raglan had Resigned the Command of the British Army; Lord Raglan was suffering from indisposition, and in the interval General Simpson acted for him. The government had the fullest confidence in that officer's ability.

On Monday, July 2, Lord ST. LEONARDS called the attention of the house to the number of convicts who had been thrown back on society by the *Ticket-of-Leave System*, and suggested that some other method should be devised for the disposal of desperate characters.—Lord GRANVILLE promised that the subject should receive every attention from the government.—Lord MELVILLE hoped that the Secretary for War would take care that no repetition occurred of a recent case, in which it appeared that one of these ticket-of-leave men had enlisted into the line.—The Duke of CAMBRIDGE protested against the infusion of so pernicious an element into the military service, which was a profession of honour.

On Tuesday, July 3, a royal message, announcing her Majesty's gracious intention to confer a *Signal Mark of her Favour upon the Family of Lord Raglan*, in consideration of his brilliant services, having been read, Lord PANMURE, who was evidently much moved, in proposing that it be taken into consideration, delivered an eloquent panegyric upon the character of Lord Raglan. Warm tributes to his memory having been paid by Lord Hardinge, the Duke of Cambridge, the Earl of Cardigan, Earl Granville, and other peers, the motion was unanimously agreed to.

On Thursday, July 5, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH urged many objections to the proposed plan for *Giving Double Pay to the Soldiers on Service in the Crimea*. He expressed a preference for the introduction of some relaxation in the existing restrictions upon enlistment, which he considered uselessly stringent, as well as in the present regulations respecting allowances, stoppages, and other arrangements whose effects were harassing or injurious to the men.—Lord PANMURE defended the plan of the government, but intimated his consent to a modification by which the soldiers would be permitted to receive at once sixpence out of the additional shilling of pay per diem in the character of a field allowance.

The Earl of HARDWICKE called attention to the deficient provision now made for the *Instruction of Naval Cadets in the Royal Service*. He suggested the re-establishment of the Navy College existing in 1832.—Earl GRANVILLE intimated that some communications had been exchanged with the First Lord of the Admiralty on the subject, and without making any pledge as

to the suggested college, stated that the number of naval instructors employed in the service would be materially increased.

On Friday, July 6, the Earl of DERRY moved the second reading of the *Religious Worship Bill*, on which a sharp conversation took place between himself, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and the Bishops of London and Oxford. The result was, that the bill was withdrawn.

On Tuesday, July 10, the Earl of Malmesbury called the attention of Lord Clarendon to the despatch of General de Berg, vindicating the *Massacre at Hango*, and wished to know the course which the government intended to pursue in the matter.—The Earl of CLARENDOX replied that the government thought the letter of General de Berg most unsatisfactory. Instructions had been sent to Admiral Dundas, who was desired to inform General de Berg that it was impossible to disbelieve the statement that the flag of truce had been hoisted and had been seen, that being the known custom in which it was usual to announce a peaceful mission, and that even if the flag of truce had not been seen that would afford no justification to the Russians, who might easily have taken prisoners the few men who with their prisoners were standing unarmed upon the pier. With respect to the assertion that there were muskets in the boat, Admiral Dundas was directed to state that the muskets were at the bottom of the boat under the tar-paulin, upon which the prisoners' luggage was laid, whence it was evident that the fact of their being in the boat must have been unknown to the Russians at the time they made their murderous attack. The other statements of the Russian general, with respect to the abuse of hoisting the Russian flag and the taking of soundings at Kertch, were also contradicted. Admiral Dundas was instructed to demand the immediate release of the prisoners, and a communication had been made through the Danish government with the Russians on the subject. Until answers had been received to these demands, the government could not say what course it would adopt.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for a return of all persons employed in the *Diplomatic Service*, and expressed an opinion that the attacks so frequently made on that branch of the public service were unfair and unfounded. Instead of deserving blame, our diplomats were worthy of praise for the way in which they discharged their duties in positions neither easy nor lucrative.—The Earl of CLARENDOX concurred in every word that had fallen from Lord Clanricarde, and declared that any reduction in the number of our diplomatic missions would be impolitic. He had no objection to the production of the returns.—The returns were then agreed to.

On Thursday, July 12, Lord LYNDHURST said that with regard to the bill for the *Abolition of the Oath of Abjuration*, which stood for second reading on Tuesday next, he had been so strongly urged not only by the opponents of the bill, but also in a quarter from which he had anticipated the most efficient support, not to proceed further with it this session, that he felt compelled to yield to the pressure, and should for the present withdraw the bill.

On Thursday, July 19, Lord BROUGHAM presented two petitions against the *Scotch Education Bill*, and urged the Duke of Argyll to postpone the measure.—The Duke of ARGYLL declined to accede to this proposition, and, after a lengthened speech, in which he entered fully into the details of the bill, moved that it be read a second time.—The Duke of BUCCLEUCH enumerated the many objections which he felt it to be his duty to entertain against the bill, and moved that it be read a second time that day three months.—Lords Brougham and Eglington followed on the same side.—Lord PANMURE regretted the fate which evidently awaited the bill, and, after some observations from Lord Haddington, the Duke of ARGYLL consented to withdraw the bill.—The Duke of RICHMOND resisted this proposition, and ultimately the bill was rejected on a division, in which the numbers were—for the bill, 1; against it, 86: majority, 85.

On Friday, July 20, Lord LYNDHURST complained of the abortive issue to which the *Attempts to Pass Legal and Other Measures* had led during the present

session.—The LORD CHANCELLOR explained the reasons that had caused the abandonment of certain bills, and threw much blame on the commons, who had evinced much inattention to measures originating in the upper house.

On Monday, July 23, the Earl of AIRLIE inquired whether any official information had lately been received by the government respecting the *Progress of the War in Asiatic Turkey*.—The Earl of CLARENDOX stated that the last intelligence from Asiatic Turkey bore date of the 23rd June. At that time the Turkish army was neither disengaged nor demoralised, the Russians had been repulsed in more than one attack, and Kars was considered safe from any sudden attempt at its capture.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Tuesday, June 26, Mr. OTWAY inquired whether the *Sunday Trading Bill* was sanctioned by the government, and whether Sir G. GREY intended to offer any opposition to its further progress?—Sir G. GREY replied that it was not a government measure, and that it was not his intention to offer any opposition to the house going into a consideration of the bill in committee.—Mr. OTWAY gave notice that, in the event of Lord R. Grosvenor going on with the bill, he would, on the motion for the third reading, move, as an amendment, that it be read a third time that day three months.—Mr. ROEDUCK said he should move that all the clubs in London be included in its provisions.—Lord R. GROSVENOR said he intended to persevere in the measure.

Mr. GIBSON, referring to certain statements made in the communication of the *Times* correspondent, of *Excesses Committed by the Invading Force at Kertch*, which in his (Mr. Gibson's) opinion, not only charged the lieutenant-general commanding with apathy, but cast an imputation upon the English character, inquired whether Lord Palmerston had received any information upon the subject?—Lord PALMERSTON said, government had received no information with respect to the transaction, but his attention had been called to the statement, and Lord PANMURE would call for such information touching the transaction as could be given by the officer in command.

Mr. H. BERKELEY moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the *Sunday Beer Bill of last Session*. He said the act had passed last session without the knowledge of a great many members of this house. He himself attempted to stop it, but at too late a stage. The working of that act had been very grievous to the poor and working classes, and equally so to the licensed victuallers. It was true the act exempted from its operation *boni-fide travellers*; but that exemption was an additional grievance to the publican, on account of the contradictory decisions which were given by magistrates in different parts of the country, and even in different districts of the same town. He went on to deny that the act had stopped drunkenness. It might have stopped it in public-houses, but only to open unlicensed places, which had increased a hundredfold since the passing of this act. It had been contended that drunkenness had diminished since last year. If that were true, it was to be accounted for by the high prices and low wages of the times; but he denied that it was so, and he read returns to show that the number of drunkards in two of the chief towns of the kingdom were on Whit-Sunday of last year 85, and on the Whit-Sunday of this year 113. He hoped the house would give him an opportunity of proving these facts before a committee, which he now moved for.

The motion was seconded by Mr. COBBETT, who cited cases of hardship under the act, and asked for a definition of the term "traveller," and the distinction between a "traveller" and a "*boni-fide traveller*."—Sir G. GREY said, although he did not admit all the arguments of Mr. Berkeley, he was quite prepared to consent to an inquiry into the operation of the act of last session. At the same time he reminded the house that there had been a strong feeling throughout the country against keeping open public-houses on the Lord's-day, and the question was, on the one hand, how to prevent drunkenness by limiting the hours at which

public-houses should be kept open, combining this, on the other hand, with a due regard to the comfort and convenience of the working-classes. He had thought at the time with Mr. Patten, that the licensed victuallers were prepared to agree to the restrictions contained in the act. With regard to its operation, from all the information he had received, he had arrived at a different conclusion from Mr. Berkeley, believing that the act had been very beneficial. The evils and inconveniences complained of—and he believed the complaints against the act did not come from the people—were not all chargeable upon this act; limitations had existed previously.—Several members having expressed themselves in favour of inquiry, the motion was agreed to.

General WYNDHAM moved a resolution that the *Duties on Stage-Coaches should be Modified*, on the ground that those duties, by discouraging posting, had diminished the supply of useful and seasoned horses suitable for the army.—Sir J. SHELLEY seconded the motion, and complained that while railways were taxed according to their earnings, omnibuses and stage-coaches were taxed per mile, whether they had passengers or not.—Lord R. GROSVENOR asked why the duty had been reduced from $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1d.$ a mile to the Manchester omnibuses, while the London trade all paid the old $1\frac{1}{2}d.$? —The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that the duty pressed heavily upon the omnibus and stage-coach trade, and said that on the first opportunity their claims ought to meet with a favourable consideration, but he deprecated the passing of an abstract resolution on the subject.—Mr. DISRAELI said that was no answer to the question why a favour had been granted to Manchester which was denied to London and the rest of the country. He thought all our taxes on horses were too high.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that a special concession had been made to Manchester, on the ground that they had to compete with a railway.—Mr. MILES said he understood the duty was also reduced in the case of Messrs. Chaplin and Horne, in the metropolis.—Lord PALMERSTON admitted that the duty, with these anomalous modifications, could not be defended; and the motion was agreed to amid general cheering.

On Wednesday, June 27, the Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of the *Formation of Parishes Bill*; but, after some conversation, consented to withdraw the bill.

The adjourned debate on the *Maynooth Grant* was resumed. After the grant had been supported by Mr. MAGUIRE and opposed by Mr. O'BRIEN, the debate was again adjourned.

On Thursday, June 28, in committee on the *Tenants' Improvements Compensation Bill*, Lord SEYMOUR said, looking at the number of amendments of this bill of which notice had been given, it was evidently impossible that a satisfactory result could be arrived at this session; and, considering the backward state of the public business, he moved that the chairman leave the chair, so that he might move that the order for the further proceeding with this bill be discharged.—Lord PALMERSTON submitted that, if there was matter in the bill which required a good deal of discussion, the better way was to set about discussing it, instead of wasting time by discussing whether it should be discussed or not.—Lord SEYMOUR offered to withdraw his motion, but, this being opposed, a division took place, which negatived the motion by 97 to 75.—The committee then proceeded to consider the clauses of the bill, commencing with the 5th. On reaching the 11th clause, the chairman reported progress.

On Friday, June 29, Sir J. WALSH asked Lord J. Russell if it were true, as stated in the circular published by Count Buol, that *Lord John Russell and the French Ambassador agreed to the Last Settlement of the Third Point proposed by Austria*.—Lord J. RUSSELL said, as far as he could judge, all the statements put forth by Count Buol were correct.

Mr. BOUVERIE moved the second reading of the *Partnership Amendment Bill*. After some remarks on the importance of this subject he proposed, he said, to explain this bill and the *Limited Liability Bill* together, because the two bills related to different branches of the same question. The one bill had reference to

private partnerships, the other to joint-stock companies. By law, the test of partnership was a share in the profits, and there was no way whatever of one partner repudiating the engagements of another. He was bound by those acts to the full extent of his means. This state of the law had given rise to general dissatisfaction, and was condemned by a unanimous resolution of the house in the last session of parliament. He dwelt at some length upon the hardship of this state of the law, particularly in the case of inventors, who, as a class, were poor men, and whom this law prevented from obtaining partners to carry out their schemes. In no other country in the civilised world was the law in such a state as in this. He described the nature and the advantages of the laws of special partnership in France and America, and said there was but one voice in these countries in favour of the system. He proposed by his bills to assimilate the English laws of partnership to the laws of these countries. There was a general objection, indeed, to any change in the law, and it was said that all the advantages of the new system would be met by parties lending their money at a fixed rate of interest. Now he did not believe that system would meet the difficulties of the case at all; for, even if a lender was willing to accept a high rate of interest, which few prudent capitalists would be willing to do, he was certain that no prudent borrower would accept money on those terms. He therefore gave his deliberate preference to the system of partnership *en commandite*. He commented at some length on the partiality and unfairness involved in these charters, which cast upon the Board of Trade a power they had neither the means nor the ability rightly to exercise. He then proceeded to explain the provisions of the measure by which he proposed to replace the present system. In the case of private partnerships, he provided that where a person lent money to a firm on condition of receiving some advantage from the profits, that circumstance should not constitute him a partner. With regard to joint-stock companies—banks and insurance companies excepted—all such companies with a capital of not less than 20,000*l.*, in shares of not less than 25*l.*, might, under certain restrictions, be constituted on the principle of limited liability. One of these restrictions was that the utmost publicity should be given to the fact that the liability of the partners was limited. Such were the principal provisions of the two measures he now offered to the house.—Mr. COLLIER seconded the motion, though he wished that the principle of limited liability should be extended to companies of smaller capital, subscribed in smaller shares, than was proposed in the bill. He would not, however, press his objections, as he was anxious to have this principle carried into practical effect during the present session.—Mr. CARR GLYN deprecated hasty legislation on this subject; and referred to the fact that the subject had been repeatedly before the house, before committees, and before royal commissions, all of which reported that the measure was not yet ripe for practical legislation. The example of France had been referred to, but the committee of which he was a member felt that there was no analogy between the two countries, on account of the greater stringency of the bankrupt laws in France. He had no objection to the bill for joint-stock companies. He applied his observations only to the law regarding private partnerships, which he believed would open the door to all sorts of fraud. He would support the second reading of the limited liability bill.—Mr. MALINS warmly supported the bill, and saw no reason why banks should be excluded from its operation.—Mr. CARDWELL said that not only was the time ripe for legislation on this subject, but in point of fact they must legislate, for the old system of entrusting the privilege of granting limited liability to the Board of Trade had wellnigh broken down. He hoped, therefore, that short as was the present parliamentary session, there would still be time to put these measures into such a shape as would enable them to be passed into law. Of the two measures, he thought the joint-stock company bill was the most important. He pointed out that the law, even in its present state, allows limited liability in its fullest extent; what the law was deficient in was this,

it provided no machinery by which partners might announce their intention to all their customers. Hence the law, theoretically right, was practically inoperative. The bills now before the house proposed to make the law practicable; but he must say that he would have preferred other securities against fraud than those which were provided for in this bill. If greater publicity were provided for, he would have preferred a greater extension of the principle. — Lord PALMERSTON was gratified with the general concurrence of opinion expressed in favour of the principle of these bills. The government were by no means wedded to their own details, but would be ready to adopt any amendment that should commend itself to the judgment of the house.—Mr. HASTIE considered this measure a retrogressive movement. — After some observations from various members, both bills were read a second time without a division.

On Monday, July 2, Lord GODERICH inquired of Lord R. GROSVENOR whether it was his intention to proceed with the *Sunday Trading Bill*?—Lord R. GROSVENOR replied that, considering that this was a measure peculiarly liable to misrepresentation and ridicule, which had been most unfairly exercised; considering, likewise, the lateness of the session and the formidable opposition with which this bill was threatened, he thought it would not be right to keep up the existing irritation for the bare chance of passing it during the present session, and he moved that the order fixed for Wednesday for the further progress of the bill be discharged.—Some strong observations by Mr. OTWAY upon the proceedings in Hyde-park on Sunday, and upon the conduct both of the government and the police, gave rise to a conversation, in the course of which Sir G. GREY justified the instructions he had issued to the police and their interference; several members severely censured the conduct of the police, which Mr. J. W. FOX stigmatised as ferocious and brutal; while on the other hand Mr. G. VERNON, an eye-witness, declared that, as far as he observed their conduct, nothing could be better and more good-humoured.—The motion for the discharge of the order was agreed to, so that the bill is lost.

The three *Education Bills*, brought in by Lord John Russell, Sir John Packington, and Mr. Milner Gibson, were withdrawn.

On Tuesday, July 3, on the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, the house resolved itself into committee to take into consideration *Her Majesty's Message with Regard to Lord Raglan's Family*. The message having been read, Lord PALMERSTON moved a series of resolutions in reply to it. He reminded the house that they had often been called to the pleasing duty of awarding thanks to those warriors who had deserved well of their country, and that the walls of the house had often rung with cheers as the Speaker conveyed those thanks to the individual. But their task on the present occasion was a more melancholy one. The ear which would have listened to the Speaker's praises was now still in death—the hand which had so often been raised in his country's defence was now cold and stiff in the grave. But Lord Raglan had bequeathed his family to his country; and he doubted not that the country would cheerfully accept the legacy. On other occasions when rewards of this kind occurred in the lifetime of the officer, it was usual to award a pension, varying from 2,000*l.* to 3,000*l.* a-year for the lifetime of the individual himself, and for two generations next in succession. As Lord Raglan was now no more, it would be necessary in some degree to vary this precedent, and he therefore would propose that a pension of 1,000*l.* a-year should be granted to Lady Raglan during her life, and that a further pension of 2,000*l.* a-year be granted to the present Lord Raglan, and to his son succeeding him, during their respective lives. Mr. Disraeli, Lord John Russell, and other members, expressed in warm language their concurrence in the resolutions.—The question was put from the chair, when Mr. M. GIBSON interposed, and after remarking that the Crimean expedition had been undertaken against the judgment of Lord Raglan, at the instance of the home government, inquired what was to be the future policy of the administration respecting the conduct of the war. The right hon. member then diverged into the question of the Vienna

conferences, and commented upon certain revelations respecting the opinions of the noble lord the member for London, which, he declared, were to be found in the last circulars of Count Bulow. He sought explanations also touching the atrocities committed after the surrender of Kertch, and inveighed against the criminal negligence which had allowed an enterprise said to be undertaken in the cause of liberty and civilisation to receive so indelible a disgrace.—Lord PALMERSTON said there was a season for all things. Her Majesty's government would be prepared at all fitting times to defend their conduct; but they would not be led by the taunts of the right hon. gentleman, or by the cheers of his friends, to mix up with a subject which ought to be one and undivided, topics of party ceremony or the hostility of the peace party. The resolutions were then agreed to.

On Thursday, July 5, Petitions complaining of the *Conduct of the Police in the Late Disturbances* were presented by Mr. ROEBUCK and Mr. Thomas Duncombe. Mr. ROEBUCK stated that Mr. Chaffyn (one of the petitioners) was an upholsterer in Oxford-street; that on Monday last, having just returned from the country, he entered a news-shop to read the news; that the police came and said to the shopman, "Damn you, why don't you shut your door?" to which the shopman replied, "I'll see you damned first;" that then the police struck out with their truncheons, nearly breaking Mr. Chaffyn's arm; and that he had since tried in vain to find out the man who assaulted him. After a good deal of controversy on points of order and form, Sir GEORGE GREY asked for a copy of the statement, and promised inquiry into this case.—Mr. DUNCOMBE came forward with several petitions, and attempted to speak upon them. Cries of "Order!" were raised, and the SPEAKER remarking that the grievances complained of were not grievances of the kind that demand immediate inquiry, decided that Mr. Duncombe could not speak. Whereupon Mr. Duncombe moved the adjournment of the house; and proceeded, not without some further interruptions, to detail the cases of alleged outrage and cruelty, and to suggest immediate inquiry as the only means of preventing further mischief. A man talking to his neighbours was struck under each ear by two policemen; another was knocked down in Mount-street; a woman following her bleeding husband was struck on the breast; a youth was struck across the loins, without any provocation; a soldier, wounded in the Crimea—a cripple, who could not move rapidly—was cruelly beaten. Colonel Aubrey, late of the Blues, had volunteered to give evidence of the "brutality displayed by a body of ruffians and cowards," whom he could not call men. Mr. Duncombe said he was ready to substantiate all these cases by evidence; and at a future time he should move for a committee of inquiry.—Sir GEORGE GREY said he heard the statements for the first time; had they been laid before him earlier, he could have already instituted an inquiry. With regard to a committee, he could say nothing, not knowing the grounds on which it would be demanded. After a considerable discussion, the motion for the adjournment was withdrawn.

The house then went into committee on the *Tenants' Improvements Compensation Bill*, and proceeded to the consideration of clause 14. This clause provided that tenants, if evicted, shall be entitled to compensation for improvements made before the passing of the act.—Mr. HORSEMAN proposed to limit the retrospective effect of the clause to twenty years; and the insertion of words to that effect was carried by a majority of 141 to 37.—Mr. Serjeant SHEE and others angrily complained that they had been taken by surprise. But the consideration of the clause was continued. Some amendments were proposed and carried, and at length the clause was put, and negatived by 138 to 102, against the wish of the government. This led to a warm altercation and the exchange of sharp words between Mr. Shee and Lord Palmerston; Mr. Shee accusing the Premier of "presumption" in attacking him; and Lord PALMERSTON announcing that he should be guilty of the presumption of attacking Mr. Shee whenever he thought proper. On the ground that without the retrospective clause the bill would be an utter farce, Mr. Shee urged

that it should be withdrawn. But Lord Palmerston said he should fix the bill for next Thursday, and then the house might say what should be done regarding it.

On Friday, July 6, Sir JOHN SHELLEY inquired whether, after the allegations made in petitions respecting the *Conduct of the Police*, the government would grant an inquiry?—Sir GEORGE GREY was not prepared to say that the petitions afford sufficient ground for inquiry. “With regard to the general allegations which have been made, provided it does not imply any condemnation or preconceived judgment against the police—which, I am bound to say, information I have received leads me to believe would be most unmerited—I have not the slightest objection to have those allegations submitted to a searching investigation.” The topic was further prosecuted at different times, on motion of form.—Mr. DUNCOMBE urged an inquiry not by commissioners of police, but by a government commission.—Mr. BENTINCK objected to the exciting remarks of Mr. Duncombe respecting what may happen on Sunday.—Other members took part.—Mr. DUNDAS defended the police, as an eye-witness: he described the people in Hyde Park as “canaille,” and hinted that nothing will “frighten a mob more than the crash upon the pavement of the trail of a six-pounder.”—Subsequently Mr. ROEBUCK called Mr. Dundas to account for this suggestion, as unfit for the house of commons and unworthy of an English gentleman; and at a later period Mr. Dundas apologized.—Sir GEORGE GREY renewed an assurance that the inquiry he contemplated should be satisfactory both to the house and to the public.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON requested Lord John Russell to explain his conduct with reference to the recent *Conferences at Vienna*. He desired to know how it was that, after having agreed to the Austrian proposals for peace, as stated by Count Buol, Lord John Russell retained his place in a government pledged to cripple Russia, when those proposals were rejected?—Lord JOHN RUSSELL described his own course in the negotiations at Vienna, and his exertions to discover the views of Austria; and recapitulated the Austrian propositions, in which he concurred, and which he thought would give, not a certainty, but a very fair prospect of the duration of peace. No doubt, the statement of Count Buol was in the main an accurate statement. Lord John had told Count Buol that his instructions from London would lead him to suppose that the Austrian proposals would not be accepted, but that his own opinion was that they ought to be, and might be, accepted; and he promised Count Buol that he would do his best to put these propositions in such a light that the Austrian government might hope for their adoption. On his return from Vienna, those propositions were deliberately considered by the cabinet. Everything Lord John stated had due weight, and was fairly placed in opposition to the disadvantages of such a peace. The government came to the conclusion that the peace proposed would not be a safe peace, and that they could not recommend its adoption. It was not correct to say that the Emperor of the French was disposed to accept the terms. Before he knew the decision of the English government, the Emperor had determined to change his minister and to reject the Austrian proposal, as not affording a sufficient foundation for peace. Mr. Gibson had asked why Lord John continued in the government which rejected his counsel: but as a plenipotentiary, it was for him to submit to the decision of his government; as a member of the cabinet, it was his duty to consider the circumstances of the time—the failures of himself, and of Lord Derby to form a government that promised stability—the attacks to which Lord Palmerston himself was exposed, for no other reason than that he held a place of authority. Now though, out of office, he might have given every support to his noble friend, he felt that his resignation would have increased the instability of administration, and would have been considered the symptom and precursor of other changes. Within the cabinet, it is the duty of the minority to yield to the majority, if there be a majority and a minority; for an individual to defer to the sentiments of the cabinet in general, and to leave it to the house of commons to decide whether

or not they are to be trusted with the conduct of public affairs.—Mr. COBDEN blamed Lord John Russell for not having followed the example of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and for having, by showing that he had surrendered his judgment, struck at the basis of confidence in public men. He affirmed that the war is odious in France, citing as a proof that the Emperor had not dared to propose an extraordinary levy of troops; and he urged the hopelessness of the siege of Sebastopol. In the course of his speech, Mr. Cobden declared that he would infinitely rather see a government formed of members from the other side, and take the hazard of the “change”—“I look back (he said) with regret on the vote which I gave on the motion which changed Lord Derby’s government. I regret the result of that motion; for it has cost the country 100 millions of treasure, and between 20,000 and 30,000 good lives.”—Lord PALMERSTON defended his colleague from the attacks of Mr. Cobden, and vindicated his conduct. With regard to the object of the war, which Mr. Gibson said he should be at a loss to explain, Lord Palmerston could tell him that there is not a peasant in England who does not comprehend the objects of the war. Denying that he had ever talked of going on a crusade to sever Hungary from Austria and expel the Russians from Poland, he declared that all the speeches of the members for the West Riding and for Manchester would not break the manly and determined spirit of the people, whose determinations the government had only fulfilled in rejecting the Austrian propositions. He supposed it is meant he should infer that when next a vote is proposed which shall have a tendency to remove the government from their places, it will have Mr. Cobden’s support. Thus he will be voting to place in power a set of gentlemen who, to judge by the language they have held in that house, are as determined to carry on the war with vigour and energy as the present government.—Mr. ROEBUCK joined in the censure bestowed upon Lord John Russell, but turned upon Mr. Gibson for questioning the necessity and objects of the war.—Mr. DISRAELI commented on the extraordinary revelations of the Minister, and revived the charges of ambiguous language and uncertain conduct, which events, he said, had established.—Sir GEORGE GREY replied to Mr. Disraeli; and with a few words from Lord GODERICH, the subject dropped.

On Monday, July 9, Sir B. HALL stated, in answer to Colonel Smyth, that it was not the intention of government to go on with the *Public Health Bill* this session, but to continue the present bill for another year.

In answer to a question from Sir J. Pakington respecting the *Riot in Belgrave-square on Sunday*, Sir GEORGE GREY replied, it was hardly necessary for him to say that he had given no orders to withdraw the ordinary protection of the police from Belgrave-square and its neighbourhood on that day. The whole damage was caused by what appeared to be a sudden impulse on the part of the crowd. The whole mischief was committed in a quarter of an hour, and before the police could come up the rioters had disappeared.—The subject was resumed at a later part of the evening by Mr. ADDERLEY, who said the mob was composed entirely of boys, but they were countenanced by others who ought to have known better. He complained, however, that not a policeman was to be seen on the spot till after the mischief was done, when the police appeared in force enough to repel a hostile invasion.—Sir GEORGE GREY said the statement of the hon. gentleman agreed pretty much with his own information, except that the police were certainly there in their ordinary force. He agreed that the conduct of the respectable part of the crowd was very discreditable to them, and he believed that, instead of aiding, they had obstructed the efforts of the police. Some prisoners were taken, but more might have been apprehended if the inhabitants had acted with the police.—Colonel PENNANT, after advertizing to the gallant conduct of Admiral Sir G. Seymour, who was severely wounded in resisting the mob, asked if the inhabitants of the neighbourhood would be justified in banding together for self-defence next Sunday?—Sir G. GREY said every precaution would be taken to prevent a repetition of these scenes next Sunday, and the police would be

happy to receive the assistance of the residents in the neighbourhood.

On the motion for bringing up the report of the *Scottish Education Bill*, Mr. E. LOCKHART complained of the abrupt manner in which the committee came to a close on the former occasion, by which means several amendments were prevented from being brought forward, and moved that the bill be now recommitted.—The *LORD ADVOCATE* resisted the motion, and characterised it as a factious one. After some conversation, the motion was negatived by a majority of 147 to 82, and the house proceeded to consider the report. Several new clauses were brought up and amendments proposed; after which the report was received.

On the motion for going into committee on the *Partnership Amendment Bill*, Mr. HASTIE said that the bill was artfully drawn to induce old merchants to retire from business, leaving their 5000*l.* in the hands of one of the cleverest of their clerks, with which he might speculate to any extent, the wealthy partner running no risk beyond his 5000*l.* He then proceeded to quote from a work of Mr. McCulloch on this subject, which he did at such length that first Mr. E. Ball and next Mr. J. M'Gregor rose and appealed to the speaker whether the reading of a whole pamphlet was conformable to the rules of the house.—The SPEAKER, who had some difficulty in preserving his gravity amidst the general laughter of the house, decided that a member was entitled to read quotations from a pamphlet; the disputed point was a question of degree.—Mr. Hastie went on, and after reading some more extracts, he supposed the case of two partners, with a capital between them of 10,000*l.* In the course of trade they made 25,000*l.* and they lost 30,000*l.* It would then be worth their while to become bankrupt, when their liabilities would only be to the extent of 10,000*l.* which, with their profits, would enable them to retire with a clear gain of 15,000*l.* Believing, then, that this bill would encourage fraud, he moved that it be committed that day three months.—Mr. MITCHELL seconded the motion. He laid down this principle, that persons who were permitted to make unlimited profits ought to be liable with their whole fortunes to loss.—Mr. JOHN M'GREGOR, who supported the bill, said nobody but the large capitalists were opposed to limited liability. Therefore he was not surprised that Lord Overstone was hostile to it. He should much like to know, however, whether that nobleman's father, when he travelled about as a Unitarian minister, would not have been glad to invest 5*l.* if he thought he could get 5 or 10 per cent. interest for it. He (Mr. M'Gregor) thought it right to tell bold truths, because Lord Overstone was now a millionaire of commanding influence in that city, but for which circumstance he would never have been Lord Overstone. There were many persons who wished to become Lord Overstone by preventing the poor man from investing 5*l.* without incurring an unlimited responsibility.—Mr. WILKINSON spoke in favour of the bill, considering the principle—that of altering the law so that a man lending money for a share of the profits should not be responsible for his whole property—to be a good one.—Mr. MALINS replied to Mr. Hastie and Mr. Mitchell, whose speeches, he said, abounded with fallacies. They had overlooked the fact that the bill applied only to dormant partners.—A few remarks having been made by Mr. Gregson, Mr. W. Brown, and Mr. H. Vivian, the amendment was negatived, and the house went into committee upon the bill; but, after the second clause, the chairman reported progress.

On Tuesday, July 10, Sir E. BULWER LYTTON gave notice that on Friday night, on going into committee of supply, or at the first suitable opportunity, he would move the following resolution:—"That the *Conduct of Our Minister in the Recent Negotiations at Vienna* has, in the opinion of this house, shaken the confidence of this country in those to whom its affairs are entrusted."

Mr. STAFFORD inquired *Whether Dr. A. Smith had Retired*, and whether Dr. Hall still continued medical inspector-general of the army in the east.—Mr. F. PEEL stated that Dr. A. Smith continued to officiate until his successor was appointed, and that, with respect to Dr. Hall, during the time Lord Panmure had been at the

head of the war department there had been no complaint as to the manner in which he had performed his duty, and that Lord Panmure had therefore not removed him from the headship of the medical department of the army in the east.

Mr. SCULLY brought forward the subject of *Administrative Reform* by moving an address, thanking her Majesty for the order in council of the 21st of May last, by which certain persons were directed to examine into and certify the qualifications of all young men proposed to be appointed to junior situations in any department of the civil service; and praying that her Majesty will be pleased to direct the examination to be an open one, and held in public, and that the examiners do have regard to superior qualifications and merit. He mentioned instances in which he thought the latter condition had been neglected, and in the course of his speech he gave some entertaining proofs of the greediness for places under government, and the extravagant expectations indulged by those who could command any avenue to members of parliament.—The motion was seconded by Lord GODERICH.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said the government were as desirous as Mr. Scully of promoting administrative reform; but the question was, what is administrative reform, and would the measure proposed further administrative reform? Under this term were included two classes of measures, —one, the examination of all the existing departments, with reference to the distribution of labour, the number of persons employed, and their efficiency. A series of investigations had been instituted by successive governments into the different departments of the state, and all practicable recommendations had been carried into effect. The other class of measures involved an inquiry into the general character of the civil service, and the order in council of the 21st of May was intended to improve the state of that service, subject to the existing condition, by placing the examination of nominees under a board independent of all influence connected with the several departments, establishing a standard of qualification, in conjunction with the existing rule with respect to nominations, and under this order commissioners had been appointed, who had entered upon their duties. Mr. Scully thought this order did not go far enough in the way of reform, and desired that the examination should be open to the public; that any person might offer himself as a candidate without any preliminary examination; and that the persons appointed should be selected out of a given number of persons. The necessary effect of adopting this plan would be that all civil servants under the crown would be appointed without any reference to the power of the crown, or of persons appointed by the crown, which would have no *veto* upon their nomination. Sir C. Lewis examined the different parts of the scheme, the really important feature of which was, he observed, the rendering examinations competitive. The first objection to this proposal was, that the introduction of the principle of competitive examination would destroy that of personal responsibility for the choice of civil servants. Another objection was, that by such a principle intellectual excellence might be obtained, but it would be impossible to gauge moral qualities. If the scheme were adopted it must, in the end, be extended to the whole circle of appointments, including magistrates and public servants of every description. The general experience of mankind was not favourable to the scheme, which had not been adopted by any other nation, ancient or modern: neither did our own mercantile bodies or railway companies act upon such a principle. After stating the results of the working of the order in council, he put it to the house whether it was desirable so soon to rescind it for the sake of a questionable experiment, fundamentally different from the existing system, and whether it would not be better to have some further experience of the order of May. He therefore moved the previous question.—Mr. WILKINSON supported the motion.—Mr. W. S. LINDSAY likewise advocated the motion, which he considered a step in the right direction of administrative reform.—Sir S. NORTHCOTE denied that it was intended by the mover to revoke the order of May, upon which supposition the chancellor of the exchequer had founded an objection. The real object was, that in

place of nominating a candidate to go before the examiners, the examination should be open without nomination. It was true there would be no personal recommendation, but the responsibility would be only removed from the patron to the examiners, and there would be probation afterwards. He replied to other objections suggested by the chancellor of the exchequer, who did not seem to be aware, he said, that there was a precedent for the plan proposed in France, where a system was in operation with reference to certain professions. He likewise met another class of objections, drawn from our political and social position.—Sir F. BARING hoped that it would not be understood that those who did not approve this proposal were hostile to any improvement of the public service; but he did not concur in the sweeping censure cast upon that service. With regard to patronage, he did not believe the public mind would agree with those who sought to abolish it altogether, and to postpone all claims of public servants to open competition. The persons wanted for clerks in a public office were not first-class men from the Universities; he should prefer supernumerary clerks to men chosen by competition, who were over-educated for their office. He suggested various difficulties in the way of appointing by competition, being pretty sure, he said, the result would be that the richer classes would get the best appointments under that system. His firm impression was that the fault of the present system consisted in the unfortunate arrangement by which promotion went by seniority, and unfit men could not be removed.—Mr. GLADSTONE said the question was not so much whether any particular expression in the motion was open to fair exception, but on the issue raised by the chancellor of the exchequer, who contended that the time was unsuitable for pronouncing such an opinion, before time had been given to see how the order in council worked. But, after the resolution of Sir B. Lytton,—which was recommended by a speech full of meaning, advocating free admission to the public service,—he thought it was eminently the time to show the country what the house meant by that resolution. He reviewed the condition of the civil service under the existing system, pointing out its evils, which tended to equalise the good, middling, and bad. The public had a right to be served by the best men it could get for the price it offered. He contended that the present system not only did not give the best men, but that it created a vast mass of collateral evils connected with the dispensation of patronage, which kept a large class of men in a state of expectancy, wasting their lives in solicitation. He combated the arguments against competition employed by Sir F. Baring, who had regarded a clerk, he said, as a constant quantity, whereas the quality of clerks differed in different departments. Discontent pervaded the whole mass of the civil service, owing to the standard of remuneration, which did not distinguish between good and bad. Promotion by seniority, he agreed, was an evil, and the whole question of admission he considered to be a secondary one, except by its connexion with promotion. The root of the evil lay in the system of nomination; the cure was to be found in the adoption of another system which made merit the passport to admission, and in nineteen cases out of twenty examination would be a security for moral as well as intellectual character.—Mr. TATE spoke in support of the motion.—Lord PALMERSTON said all parties were agreed on the propriety of filling the civil departments of the government with capable men. The only difference was as to the mode of effecting that object. He defended the character of the civil servants as a class, and he hoped the house would content itself for the present with the principle of examination that had been established; where the chief of a department had two or three candidates for an office, a competition between them might with advantage be established, but beyond that he would not for the present go.—Mr. Scully replied.—After which the house divided, when the previous question was carried by a majority of 140 to 125.

On Wednesday, July 11, the motion for going into committee on the *Church Rates Abolition Bill* was opposed by Mr. FOLLETT, who contended that the measure constituted a first step towards the destruction of the established church in this country. He moved

that the committal of the bill be postponed for three months.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL remarked upon the public agitation, and injury to the church itself, which the present uncertain state of the church-rate question occasioned. It was time that the controversy should subside, and he saw no means of allaying disputes on the subject, except by sanctioning the abolition of rates. In a legal point of view he recommended that step, as the existing law recognised an obligation which it gave no means of enforcing, and thus presented an anomaly at once baneful and ridiculous.—Lord J. Manners opposed the bill, which was defended by Sir W. Somerville and Mr. E. Ball.—Mr. R. PHILLIMORE supported the amendment, believing that the measure gave unfair and exclusive advantages to the dissenters.—Mr. C. FORSTER expressed his conviction that the only way to terminate the long-pending dispute was by a total and immediate repeal of the church-rate impost, as effected by the bill before the house.—Mr. Wigram, Mr. Vernon, and Mr. Gurney having spoken against the measure, Mr. BENTINCK observed that no cabinet minister was present, and moved the adjournment of the debate, which, after some discussion and a division, was at length agreed to.

On Thursday, July 12, Lord PALMERSTON laid on the table the *Papers containing the Close of the Vienna Negotiations*. He took this opportunity of stating that he would resist Mr. Disraeli's motion, that Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's motion of censure on Lord John Russell should be brought forward to-morrow, on the ground that the papers he had just laid on the table, and which were material to the case, could not be in the hands of members till to-morrow. After to-morrow, he had no objection that Sir E. B. Lytton should bring forward his motion on any day that it suited him.—Lord J. RUSSELL took the opportunity of stating, in reply to a question from Mr. Disraeli, put on a previous day, that he made his statement of Friday last because he believed there was nothing he stated which the house might not have learned from other sources. He had since, however, laid the question before her Majesty, and had obtained her sanction to the course he had pursued. He wished also to correct a misrepresentation of what he said on Friday last. It was certainly true that when he returned from Vienna he was of opinion that the propositions of Count Buol might secure an honourable peace. But it did not follow that he thought the same propositions would be equally efficacious now. On the contrary, he was of opinion that this country had no choice but vigorously to prosecute the war.—Mr. DISRAELI did not see that this explanation altered the position of the noble lord. The charge against him was, that returning home from Vienna a friend of peace—which his colleagues did not share in—he still remained a member of the cabinet, and led the house to believe that he was an advocate for a vigorous prosecution of the war. He denied that the noble lord had any right to disclose the Queen's counsels without the Queen's consent, and certainly there were no means of knowing what passed in the cabinet, unless the noble lord had told them. With regard to the question now before them, he charged Lord Palmerston with having altered the day of supply, which was originally fixed for Friday, in order to get rid of this question, and even now the noble lord did not hold out a promise of Monday. The noble lord talked of papers—he did not believe that any papers to be produced could affect the judgment of the house, but if the noble lord would promise to give them Monday, he would not insist on Friday.—Lord PALMERSTON said, Mr. Disraeli made much ado about nothing. He had not fixed supply for Friday, and if he had he would have altered it when the hon. baronet gave his notice, because he did not think it right that the question should be discussed without the papers, though he could perfectly well understand the right hon. gentleman's tactics in wishing the house to decide the question before they had the means of understanding it. He repeated now what he stated before, that he had no objection to the debate taking place any day after the papers were in the hands of the house, and he would readily, therefore, fix supply for Monday. He defended Lord John Russell for the statement he made on Friday without the Queen's consent, which he said was done every day.—Sir E. B.

LYTTON was not surprised at the noble lord thinking his right hon. friend had made much ado about nothing, for he believed, in point of chronological order, "Much Ado about Nothing" came next after the "Comedy of Errors." He had no objection to accept Monday for his motion, and suggested that it would better befit the gravity of the subject if it were taken as a substantive motion instead of as an amendment on a committee of supply.—Lord Palmerston assented.—Sir J. WALSH suggested that as the debate was likely to be adjourned, Mr. Roebuck should postpone his motion which stood for the following Tuesday.—Mr. ROEBUCK agreed to the suggestion, and postponed his motion accordingly.

The motion for the third reading of the *Scottish Education Bill* was opposed by Sir J. FERGUSON, who objected to the measure because it trenched upon the influence of the church in Scotland. He moved that the bill be read a second time that day three months.—Mr. L. HEYWOOD supported this amendment, and a division took place, on which there appeared—for the third reading, 105; against, 102: majority, 3. The declaration of this narrow majority elicited much cheering from the opponents of the bill, and was subsequently made the ground for many appeals to the Lord Advocate to abandon his measure. Many supplemental clauses and additional amendments were afterwards discussed, some serious complaints being urged respecting an alleged conversion, under sudden and mysterious influences, of a large section of Scotch members on the subject of the bill. Ultimately a division was taken on the question that the bill should pass, which was carried by a majority of 130 to 115.

On Friday, July 13, Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY asked if it was intended to propose any *Supplementary Estimates*, and when?—Sir GEORGE LEWIS said that the expenditure of the first quarter had been in excess of the estimates; if it continued at the same rate the sums already voted would not be sufficient. It would therefore be necessary to present a supplementary estimate for a considerable amount, both for the naval and war departments. In reply to Mr. Disraeli, he further stated that the government did not enter into an engagement that it would not raise by way of loan any further sum until the last instalments of the loan of 16,000,000*l.* have been paid. But he did not wish to convey that government entertained any intention of raising another loan for the service of the year.

Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE made an inquiry respecting the *Commission of Inquiry into the Conduct of the Police*. Sir GEORGE GREY said, it had been determined to appoint a commission, which would consist of the Recorder of the City of London, Mr. Stuart Wortley; the Recorder of Manchester, Mr. R. B. Armstrong; and Mr. Henderson, the Recorder of Liverpool. It was thought necessary that a commission should be issued under the great seal to empower the commissioners to take evidence on oath.

On Monday, July 16th, Lord JOHN RUSSELL took occasion to make an explanation respecting his *Resignation*. Recent events, he said, having been complicated and perverted, he wished to place before the house some account of his conduct in these difficult transactions. It had been said that he had pledged himself to use his influence with the government to accept certain Austrian propositions. This was not true, but it was true that he did lay these propositions before the cabinet, and he did so in concurrence with persons of great weight and authority. He brought those propositions to London on the 29th of April, and a cabinet was held, at which they were not adopted, circumstances having occurred, quite independent of the merits of the propositions themselves, which made it, to his mind, impossible to agree to them. With regard to the merits of those propositions, he justified the opinion he had first formed of them, believing then that they might afford the means of combining all the powers of Europe against the future aggressions of Russia, and placing Turkey in a secure position. Having stated the general grounds upon which he had thought at the time that the propositions might have been accepted, he went on to show that further knowledge of the views of Austria as to the obligations imposed upon her by the treaty of December the 2nd, induced her

Majesty's government to think that it was not worth while to enter into negotiations founded upon her last proposition, and, in these circumstances, things reverted to their original condition, and war must be continued to obtain the objects for which it was commenced. It had been made a reproach to him, he observed, that, in a speech made since his return from Vienna, he had been in favour of a vigorous prosecution of the war, or, in the words of Mr. Disraeli, became "an uncompromising advocate of war." After the rejection of the Austrian propositions he had no other course. But it had been said that the house had not been informed at the time of the fact of these Austrian propositions. He was not responsible, he said, for that; it was the duty of the Foreign Secretary to make this communication; but he thought it was quite right on the part of the government to abstain from a premature communication, which would have been unjustifiable and a dereliction of duty on their part. Mr. Disraeli and others seemed to believe that there were but two abstract things to be considered—one peace, another war. But the government had viewed the matter differently; they thought peace preferable to war; that satisfactory terms might be obtained, and that a limitation of the Russian fleet would furnish a security, though an imperfect one, that would justify a termination of the war. When the propositions of Austria were refused he fell back upon his former opinions, and from the week ending the 5th of May the cabinet was as united a cabinet as he had ever known, but the impression seemed to prevail that, because he had taken a favourable view of the Austrian propositions, he must be ever after incapable of serving her Majesty during the war. He was not of that opinion. Finding, however, that impressions, founded either upon errors he had committed, or upon misapprehension and misrepresentation of his conduct, were so wide and general that his presence in the cabinet would be disadvantageous, he had pressed his resignation, which had been tendered once before. Having taken that course he did not feel at all discontented at the position in which he stood. He had acted on what he believed to be for the benefit of the country, and with a view to the public interests. He rejoiced to have left sincere friends in the cabinet, and although there was another class of friends who were of a different character, he trusted they were few, and he regarded them with nothing but contempt.

Sir E. BULWER LYTTON then *Withdrew the Resolution of Censure* of which he had given notice. He stated the grounds of his motion at great length. He reviewed the conduct of Lord John Russell with relation both to the previous and the existing government, as well as in the Vienna conferences, contending that it bore out his resolution, which set forth that the confidence of the country in the ministry was forfeited by the retention of the colonial secretary among the advisers of the crown. Lord John Russell, he contended, had pledged himself to accept the principle of naval counterpoise, which was repudiated by the government generally, and by the public unanimously; and nevertheless had beguiled the country by a speech advocating the vigorous prosecution of a war which he must actually have believed to be unnecessary. This speech he characterised as evasive and disingenuous, and argued that it sufficed to destroy all reliance either in the speaker himself or the colleagues who countenanced and recognised him. The stigma of insincerity had reached every member of the administration, and resulted in a degree of feebleness in the executive which was fraught with discredit and peril to the country. Neither the resignation of the colonial secretary, nor the papers lately published respecting the conferences, had diminished his conviction that Lord Palmerston and his government had deserved to lose the confidence of the country. Adverting to the European aspect of the question, he contended that the Austrian alliance was little worth the sacrifices that had been vainly made to secure it. Returning to the point immediately before the house, he remarked that the retirement of Lord John Russell, though it had not cancelled his errors, or retrieved the loss of credit and the disparagement to their integrity on the part of the whole administration, had so far accomplished the object of the resolution which he

himself proposed as to justify its withdrawal.—After a long discussion, in which Mr. Bouvierie, Lord Palmerston, Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Roebuck, Sir G. Grey, and Mr. Gladstone took part, Sir Bulwer Lytton's resolution was withdrawn by consent.

On Tuesday, July 17, Mr. ROEBUCK rose to move his *Resolution of Censure upon the late Government in Consequence of the Report of the Sebastopol Committee*. He referred to the gloomy reports which had led to the appointment of that committee, and he reminded the house that the evidence taken before that committee substantiated to the letter the gloomiest of the gloomy reports that were circulated. He paid a warm tribute to the merits of Lord Raglan as a soldier whose death in the service of his country would ever hallow his memory. He read the censure which the committee had passed upon the members of the late administration, which, he said, compelled him, as chairman of the committee, to bring forward this resolution. He divided Lord Aberdeen's cabinet into three separate parts. First came Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle. Then came the more important members of the cabinet—Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, Sir J. Graham, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Clarendon, and Mr. Sidney Herbert. All the rest he considered to be a mere herd; but their insignificance ought not to shelter them from condemnation. It was said this motion was of too sweeping a nature, and that it would ostracise every man of mark on the liberal side. He was sorry to say that was true; but it was not his fault. He did not commit the wrong—he only administered the punishment. His charge against the ministers was, that when the war was imminent they made no preparations for an event which they must have known to be certain. Another charge against them was that no adequate reserves were provided for the army, which was originally too small for its purpose. The conclusive evidence of this was that no road was provided from Balaklava to the camp, which left our army naked and unprovided, and caused them to die like sheep. But then it was said that this committee had done its work, and that they had got rid of all the elements of mischief. Of that he was very far from being confident. Besides, he did not think it was fair that some members of that cabinet should be dismissed, and others retained. In particular, he thought that the Duke of Newcastle had been made a scapegoat for the sins of others. He would say the same of Mr. S. Herbert. He did not say Mr. Herbert was not often wrong; but he was conscientious in the performance of his duty. Who then were to be punished? Those who now were enjoying the sweets of office. He would have all punished, and not a part, and therefore he directed his censure against those who remained still in power. After apologising for his physical debility, which would not allow him to proceed further, he concluded by moving the resolution.—General FEEL moved the previous question. The resolution of the committee, if it meant anything, meant condemnation of the expedition to the Crimea. In that condemnation he was not prepared to concur. It was true the expedition was undertaken without sufficient knowledge; but if ministers had waited till they were well informed, they never would have undertaken any expedition whatever. At the same time he could not see the sagacity in planning the expedition which Mr. Adair pointed to in the motion he intended to bring forward. It was plain that ministers never contemplated anything but immediate success, and that the preparations for a winter campaign were not thought of till it was discovered that the army could neither take Sebastopol nor raise the siege. But though he thought the government was not wise in yielding to the clamour of the country and the press, he was not prepared to condemn them on that account. He was in favour of ousting the government by fair means, and he would be no party to censuring public men, which he believed was already doing immense injury to the best interests of the country. After reading extracts from private letters, to show the mischief that was being done, he entreated the house not to dwell upon what could not now be recalled, but to join their efforts for bringing the war to a successful conclusion.—The motion was supported by Mr. Conolly and Mr.

Maguire; and the amendment by Mr. Lowe, the Marquis of Granby, Mr. J. Philimore, Mr. Gordon and Sir J. Walsh.—Sir J. GRAHAM having expressed his regret that no minister had risen to state the intentions or the wishes of government, said he had resisted the appointment of the committee, believing the investigation would not be pushed to an extent consistent with justice, or that, if pushed to such an extent, political danger might arise from the inquiry. That danger had been avoided, but justice had not been satisfied. The inquiry was now complete and before the house, and he thought it their duty not to shrink from pronouncing their decision. He should feel it his duty to resist the previous question, in the hope that the house, having all the materials before it for pronouncing a judgment, would pronounce a decision, ay or no, whether the members of Lord Aberdeen's government deserved the reprobation of the house.—Lord SEYMOUR had objected to the committee on many grounds, but when it was appointed he had made up his mind not to shrink from his duty. No doubt the evidence was imperfect, for the committee was continually stopping because they were treading on dangerous ground. He did not think that the country was animated with vindictive feelings, and that future zeal would atone for past deficiencies.—Sir J. PAKINGTON said Mr. Roebuck had appealed to the members of the committee to support him, and he was prepared, with great reluctance and pain, to give him that support. He considered that the insufficiency of the reasons brought against the motion justified every member in supporting it, and he treated the arguments of Mr. Lowe and Sir J. Graham as mere bagbears, called up to persuade the house to overlook the real point at issue. Having entered at some length into the reasons which had induced the late ministry to undertake the expedition to the Crimea, he condemned their conduct, nor did he think the present cabinet were to be exempted, for recent transactions had shown that they had not dealt fairly by the country.—Sir C. WOOD denied the conclusions of the preceding speaker. The object of the motion, according to the proposer, was to censure the present government, who were members of the late cabinet, but they had heard nothing but charges against Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle. They had retired from office, and with them the whole cabinet had retired. After several intermediate attempts, the present government was formed, including three gentlemen peculiarly associated with Lord Aberdeen. These gentlemen had also retired since that time, and although many charges were brought against them for their connection with the conduct of the war, he was satisfied the country would eventually do them full justice. He could not agree that the other members of the government were responsible for the management of departments with which they did not interfere, although he would not throw off any responsibility which attached to them or their colleagues. The debate was adjourned to Thursday.

On Thursday, July 19, the *Adjourned Debate was Resumed* by Mr. GASKELL, who supported Mr. Roebuck's motion.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opposed the motion, contending that it was unjust to visit on Lord Palmerston, now at the head of the government, the punishment due to the shortcomings of the Aberdeen cabinet.—Mr. WHITESIDE replied to the Attorney-General, and rested the question upon the doctrine of ministerial responsibility—the accountability of a cabinet for the acts and counsels of every individual.—Lord J. RUSSELL could not accept for himself, and he hoped Lord Palmerston would not accept, the excuses offered by the Attorney-General. The question to which Mr. Roebuck had invited them was of a very grave nature. It amounted to this—that every leading man on the liberal side of the house was to be expelled from office, and almost excluded from the house; and that the men who opposed the Roman Catholics, who opposed reform, who opposed the repeal of the corn laws, were alone to conduct the affairs of this country. It might have been expected that a person professing liberal opinions would at least, in moving such a resolution, confine himself to the strictest accuracy in point of fact. But was that so? The accuracy of some statements had

already been challenged by other speakers, and he might point out another. Mr. Roebuck said that ministers were idling in the country while cold, hunger, and disease were decimating our army. But ministers were in the country in the early autumn—cold, hunger, and disease did not fall upon the army till mid-winter. So much for Mr. Roebuck's love of truth and justice. He must remind the house of a great defect in the honourable and learned gentleman's speeches. His exordiums were strong, and his perorations admirable, but the middle of his speech, the evidence on which the charges should rest, were wholly wanting. There were the beak and the claws of a bird of prey, but the inside was stuffed with straw. To quote the language of Curran, Mr. Roebuck perched upon assertions, and called them conclusions. There were two points before the house, and Mr. Roebuck cautiously abstained, in his love of truth and justice, from saying on which of these two points he relied for condemnation. That the army had not received proper supplies was one charge; that the expedition to the Crimea was wholly wrong in policy was another. On which of these two charges was he to be condemned? Mr. Roebuck left members to take their choice, so that those who refused to condemn on one ground might do it on the other. He said that on both points the inquiry was partial and incomplete—it could not be thoroughly gone into without touching on the delicate ground of the French alliance, and therefore he thought the only proper vote to which the house could come would be the previous question. He defended the expedition to the Crimea, and said that the object was worth the risk that was run; for, if, Sebastopol had been taken—and there was reason to expect it would—peace might have been secured. Was it therefore desirable that the house should inflict censure upon those who projected the expedition? If the house came to such a conclusion, it would, in his opinion, commit a great injustice. Then on the question of policy, was it desirable that at this moment the house should come to a vote that would have the effect of displacing the present administration? This led to the further question, whether or not the present ministers were carrying on the war with sufficient vigour. If those now in power had shown themselves utterly incompetent, there would be a case for dismissing them, and with disgrace; but Mr. Roebuck had made out no such case. Convinced that the house would decide fairly, he was willing to accept the "previous question," and equally ready to abide by its decision upon the justice and policy of the resolution—a resolution conceived, he said, in malice, and which could lead to no object useful to the country.—Mr. BRIGHT had not voted for the appointment of the committee because he believed at the time it was directed against Lord Aberdeen and his immediate friends. But now it had been appointed, and that every charge against the government had been proved, he asked how the house meant to deal with it? Surely it was not all to end in the mere concentration of a few departments, which had been urged upon the government years ago. He believed the motion was intended to be a vote of censure specifically upon the noble lord at the head of the government. That issue he for one was ready to accept, and in support of it he went over the history of the noble lord in his foreign policy, commenting with hostility upon his conduct in relation to the war. He considered that his was a vote of confidence in Lord Palmerston, and he had no confidence in the noble lord.—Sir DR. LACY EVANS thought the country was indebted to Mr. Roebuck for the labour and spirit with which he had conducted the inquiry, the result of which was of the highest importance; but he thought the resolution went too far, and he should have been the less indisposed to concur in it if the censure had not been so sweeping and comprehensive. He very freely criticised the measures of the late administration, complaining of their tardiness and their trust in the virtue of protocols. He differed from Mr. Bright with regard to the policy of Lord Palmerston; he had great confidence in the spirit and determination of that noble lord, and would concur in no vote that would eject him from office, although he did not think he had shown his characteristic energy. He hoped,

however, that he would exert himself with real vigour, for if measures were not adopted earnestly to prosecute the war, in which the army in India might be employed, the sooner the present administration was got rid of the better. He must say that there had been great tardiness in the support of the army by the late government, and he believed that if it had not been for the generous efforts of the press, and the disinterested conduct of our ally, the Emperor of the French, our army might have perished altogether. But he had no apprehension of the future, and he denied that any disasters at all of a military kind had befallen our army. On the contrary, the disgrace inflicted upon Russia, a great military power, which had domineered over the world, was unparalleled in the annals of war. He concluded with an encouraging picture of the prospects of the contest, placing in remote perspective the total break-up of the vast empire of Russia.—Captain GLADSTONE, as a member of the Sebastopol committee, opposed the motion, and Mr. MUNTZ supported it.—Mr. S. HERBERT urged that, after the accusations that had been brought against the late government, the house should specifically decide which of those accusations were true, and which false. He proceeded to vindicate the policy of the Crimean expedition, and to defend the practical measures by which it had been carried out. Believing, for his own part, that he was entitled to a distinct verdict of guilty or not guilty, he declared his intention of voting against the amendment of General Peel, by which a division would be evaded.—Mr. E. ELLICE could not assent to the motion of the member for Sheffield, nor could he join in censuring an expedition with which, if it had been successful, no fault would have been found.—Sir G. GREY treated the motion as involving a specific charge against the noble lord at the head of the government. He then entered into a detail of past debates and occurrences, from which he argued that the endeavour to assign blame to the noble viscount was comparatively a recent thought. He denied that the ministry had endeavoured to shield themselves under a motion of "the previous question," professing himself perfectly prepared to challenge a direct negative to the resolution proposed by the hon. and learned member for Sheffield.—Lord J. MANNERS very briefly supported the resolution.—Lord PALMERSTON said he should stand but a short time between the house and its decision. He submitted that the motion was one of the most extraordinary that had ever been presented to parliament. He acknowledged his full responsibility for all the acts of the Aberdeen cabinet, but contended that the attempt was indefensible by which it was sought to render responsibility personal and perpetual against the ministers who were not charged with the conduct of departments when failures were discovered. When the events were much more recent, he observed, Lord Derby had not considered himself and some other members of the late government unfit for office, having invited their accession to the ministry he was attempting to perform. The noble lord then adverted to the war, and contended that the successive operations which had been undertaken during the past year were wisely counselled and gallantly performed. No object remained to be accomplished by the resolution now proposed, except to dismiss the ministry for faults which they had not committed, and which were fully repaired.—Mr. DISRAELI remarked that the government had not ventured to propose a negative to the vote of censure, but asked the house to consent not to express any opinion at all. Let the house remember what had been the course of events with regard to this motion. A few months before a committee to inquire into the state of the army before Sebastopol had been appointed by an immense majority of that house. What was the cause of the appointment of that committee. Was it the feeling of the house? No; it was the feeling of the country. As Inkerman was said to have been the soldier's battle, that committee might have been called the people's committee. After a protracted investigation, a decision was come to, and the chairman of that committee now submitted a resolution embodying the case on which that decision was founded. He thought it only right that the house should express an opinion on that resolution one way or the other. The noble

lord had referred to the attempt of Lord Derby to form a ministry. Did the noble lord mean to say that in the interval when the inquiry was going on, Lord Derby was to assume that the result would be confirmatory to the statesmen who were then the advisers of her Majesty? Such an assumption would not have been very charitable to the noble lord opposite and his colleagues. He (Mr. Disraeli) had seen statesmen invited to join a cabinet upon the faith of a solemn pledge as to the policy which would be pursued, to find, after being trepanned into the acceptance of office, that pledge violated.—[Lord PALMERSTON: That is not true.]—Mr. Disraeli said that Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Herbert, and Sir J. Graham, had been induced to join the government on the faith of an understanding in reference to the motion for the appointment of the Sebastopol committee, which understanding not having been maintained they left office. He declared that those who alluded, in a tone of intimidation, to the effect which these discussions would have upon France, were doing their utmost to endanger the alliance. The division was now about to be called, and he blushed to think of the result. After two nights' debate, with the whole country watching their proceedings, they were coming to a vote which could bring no honour or credit on that assembly collectively, or upon any individual in it.—MR. ROEBUCK having replied, the house divided upon the previous question, which was carried by 289 against 182.

On Friday, July 20, the house went into committee on the resolution *Authorising the Crown to Guarantee the Payment of Interest on the Loan of 5,000,000Z. Sterling to be Contracted by the Sultan*, and to pay that interest, if necessary, out of the national revenue.—Lord PALMERSTON explained that the Turkish government had already been obliged to resort to a loan, nominally of 5,000,000L., but on high terms—[6 per cent, stock at somewhere about 80]—and that only between two and three millions were raised. There was no doubt that the undeveloped resources of Turkey, and her mines, both of metals and coals, would supply her with ample means to make good her engagements, if she had not hitherto been obstructed by the influence of Russian agency whenever she attempted to develop those resources. The immediate security for the loan, however, was the available surplus of the tribute of Egypt.—MR. J. L. RICARDO objected, in limine, to reentering on the old system of subsidies, to interfering when Turkey could easily raise a loan by herself, and to the joint guarantee—arguments subsequently repeated by MR. GLADSTONE. It was a financial step, he said, to excite a deep and general feeling of suspicion, mistrust, alarm, and aversion. He promised to deal with the question “just as if the difference between four ships and eight ships, between limitation and counterpoise, justified the effusion of all the blood and treasure which it has cost, and is still likely to cost.” We knew that Turkey had greatly mismanaged her first attempt in the financial market. She had already received a subsidy in disguise, in the shape of a royalty of ten shillings per ton on the coal purchased of her at Heraclea. He anticipated heartburnings and quarrellings between France and England from the joint guarantee—supposing the two countries should differ as to the ability of Turkey to pay, or one get an equivalent which the other did not.—MR. DISRAELI, MR. COBDEN, MR. CARDWELL, and MR. WALPOLE made use of similar arguments.—SIR DE LACY EVANS urged reconsideration on the particular details of the plan.—Lord PALMERSTON and the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER explained the precedents, and showed how absolutely necessary assistance is to prevent the Turkish army from falling to pieces, and to keep up the life-blood of its action. Lord Palmerston showed the position in which government would be placed if the commons were to refuse ratification of its engagements. He entreated the house not to stand upon differences of opinion as to the particular method, when no such difference could be a fundamental objection to a measure upon which, in the eyes of foreign countries, the honour of this country is at stake. A refusal would have the most calamitous consequences.—On a division, the resolution was carried by 135 to 132, a majority of three.

On Monday, July 23, the report of the committee on the *Turkish Loan* was brought up, and, after some conversation, agreed to without opposition.

On Tuesday, July 24, the *Turkish Loan Bill* was read a first time.

Lord PALMERSTON intimated that the government did not intend this session to proceed with the *Tenants' Compensation (Ireland) Bill*.

The house afterwards went into committee on the *Partnership Amendment Bill*, but the discussion that ensued referred only to the question whether the measure, along with its companion, the Limited Liabilities Bill, should be proceeded with this year.—Lord PALMERSTON expressed his intention to persevere with the bills, although the day on which the peers had consented to discuss new business would have passed before they could reach the upper house.—A division was taken on the motion of Mr. MUNTZ, and the chairman ordered to report progress by a majority of 89 to 41. The resumption of the committee on the bill was then fixed for Thursday.

On Wednesday, July 25, the *Act of Parliament Amendment Bill*, the *Marriage Law Amendment Bill* and the *Grand Juries (Ireland) Bill*, which stood respectively for second reading and committee, were abandoned for the present session.

On the motion that the *Bleaching Works Bill* should be read a second time, Sir G. GREY adverted to the advanced period of the session, and suggested that this measure should also be thrown over until next year.—MR. I. BUTT, who had charge of the bill, refused to surrender it, and a discussion ensued, in which many hon. members took part. Ultimately the house divided, and the motion for the second reading was negatived by a majority of 72 to 67—5. The bill is consequently lost.

The motion for going into committee on the next bill, for the *Union of Contiguous Benefices*, was opposed by MR. A. PELLATT, who moved that the bill should be committed that day three months. After some brief conversation this amendment was negatived, on a division, by 70 votes against 47. The house then went into committee on the bill, and passed one or two clauses.

On Thursday, June 26, the motion for going into committee on the *Limited Liability Bill* was opposed by MR. MUNTZ, who moved that the committee be deferred for three months. After some discussion, in the course of which Lord PALMERSTON offered, if necessary, to prolong the session to September, so as to afford sufficient time for consideration of the bill, a division took place, and the motion for going into committee was carried by 121 to 40.

At the evening sitting, Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to a question, stated that the government would consider it their duty to *Summon Parliament during the Recess* when diplomatic or other contingencies might occur, so as to render a meeting of the house expedient.

SIR C. WOOD, in answer to another inquiry, said that the *Russian Authorities had Refused to give up the Prisoners taken at Hango Head*.

The *Turkish Loan Bill* was read a second time without discussion.

MR. H. BERKELEY brought up a report from the select committee on the *New Beer Act*, and gave notice that on Monday next he would move for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the late act, and which would allow public-houses to be open from 1 till 3 in the afternoon of Sunday, and from 5 till 11 in the evening.

In a committee of supply, the *Estimates for Education* were moved by Sir G. GREY, who stated that the total amount for the current year was 381,921L, besides a supplemental estimate of 15,000L. As 100,000L had already been voted, he moved for 296,521L. MR. BARNES moved that the vote be reduced to 263,000L; but the amendment was withdrawn and the original motion agreed to. The following vote of 215,200L for education in Ireland was also agreed to.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Tuesday, June 26th.—Friendly Societies Bill committed.

28th.—Assizes and Sessions Bill committed. Militia Bill read a third time and passed. Railway Accidents Bill committed.

29th.—Spirits Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill reported.

Monday, July 2.—Railway Accidents Bill committed. Spirits Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill read a third time and passed.

3rd.—Friendly Societies Bill read a third time and passed.

5th.—Railway Accidents Bill reported.

6th.—Religious Worship Bill withdrawn. Assizes and Sessions Bill read a third time and passed. Friendly Societies Bill read a third time and passed. Stock in Trade Bill read a second time.

9th.—Accidents on Railways Bill read a third time and passed. Indemnity Bill reported. Stock in Trade Bill reported.

10th.—Victoria Government Bill, and New South Wales Government Bill read a second time. Waste Lands (Australia) Bill read a second time. Places of Religious Worship Registration Bill read a second time. Youthful Offenders Bill read a second time.

12th.—Dwellings for the Labouring Classes Bill reported. Dwelling Houses (Scotland) Bill read a second time. Endowed Schools (Ireland) Bill read a second time. Victoria Government, New South Wales Government, and Australian Waste Lands Bills committed. Places of Religious Worship Bill committed. Youthful Offenders Bill committed. Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill read a second time.

13th.—Bills of Exchange Bill read a second time. Endowed Schools Bill reported. Victoria Government, New South Wales Government, and Australian Waste Lands Bills read a third time and passed. Places of Religious Worship Bill read a third time and passed.

16th.—Raglan Annuity Bill read a first time. Religious Worship Bill referred to a select committee. Irish Endowed Schools Bill read a third time and passed. Youthful Offenders Bill read a third time and passed.

17th.—Bills of Exchange Bill reported. Public Libraries Bill read a second time. Coal Mines Inspection Bill read a second time. Raglan Annuities Bill read a second time.

18th.—Scotch Education Bill thrown out on second reading. Religious Worship Bill recommitted. Dwelling-houses (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed. Crime and Outrage Act Continuance Bill read a second time.

20th.—Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill read a second time. Bills of Exchange Bill read a third time and passed.

23rd.—Public Libraries Bill and Coal Mines Inspection Bill passed through committee.

24th.—Metropolis Local Management Bill read a second time. Dissenters Marriage Bill read a second time. Public Libraries Bill read a third time and passed.

House of Commons.—Tuesday, June 26th.—Metropolis Local Management Bill in committee.

27th.—Parish Organisation Bill withdrawn. Youthful Offenders Bill read a third time and passed.

28th.—Tenants' Improvements Compensation (Ireland) Bill in committee. Excise Duties Bill read a second time. Indemnity Bill committed.

29th.—Victoria Government Bill, New South Wales Government Bill, and Waste Lands (Australia) Bill, read a third time and passed. Partnership Amendment Bill, and Limited Liability Bill, read a second time. Indemnity Bill read a third time and passed. Endowed Schools (Ireland) Bill read a second time.

July 2nd.—Sunday Trading Bill withdrawn. Education (Scotland) Bill committed. Three English Education Bills withdrawn. Stock in Trade Bill committed.

3rd.—Metropolis Local Management Bill reported. Lord Raglan's family, Queen's Message considered and Resolutions agreed to.

4th.—Dwelling Houses (Scotland) Bill read a third time. Stock in Trade Bill read a third time and passed. Coal Mines Inspection Bill reported. Dissenters Marriage Bill reported.

5th.—Nuisances Bill in committee. Tenants Improvements Compensation Bill in committee. Merchant Shipping Bill committed. Union of Contiguous Benefices Bill read a second time. Stage Carriage Duties Bill in committee. Public Libraries Bill committed. Lady Raglan and Lord Raglan's Annuities Bill read a first time.

6th.—Dwelling Houses (Scotland) Bill passed. Endowed Schools (Ireland) Bill read a third time and passed. Stage Carriage Duties Bill read a first time.

9th.—Education (Scotland) Bill reported. Partnership Amendment Bill in committee. Raglan Annuities Bill read a second time. Public Libraries Bill read a third time and passed. Bills of Exchange Bill read a third time and passed.

10th.—Nuisance Bill in committee.

12th.—Nuisance Bill reported. Education (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed. Coal Mines Bill read a third time and passed.

13th.—Roman Catholic Charities Bill withdrawn. Tenants Improvements Compensation Bill in committee. Sale of Spirits (Ireland) Bill read a second time. Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill committed. Dissenters Marriages Bill read a third time. Stage Carriage Duties Bill read a second time.

16th.—Sir E. Lytton's motion of censure withdrawn. Merchant Shipping Bill read a third time and passed. Stage Carriage Duties Bill committed. Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill read a second time. Schools (Scotland) Bill

thrown out. Dissenters Marriage Bill read a third time and passed.

17th.—Public Health Bill withdrawn. Sebastopol Committee, Mr. Roebuck's motion of censure, debate adjourned. Maynooth, debate adjourned for three months.

18th.—Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill withdrawn. Dwellings for Labourers (Ireland) Bill in committee. Convention with United States Bill read a second time.

18th.—Sebastopol Committee, Mr. Roebuck's motion disposed of by the previous question.

20th.—Metropolis Local Management Bill read a third time and passed. Turkish Loan Convention, Resolution adopted. Maynooth Report, Select Committee granted. Convention with United States Bill read a third time and passed. Abounding Debtors (Ireland) Bill read a third time.

23rd.—Nuisances Removal Bill read a third time and passed. Metropolitan Buildings Bill went through committee. Passengers Act Bill considered in committee. Report on Turkish Loan brought up and agreed to.

24th.—Turkish Loan Bill read a first time. Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill went through committee.

25th.—Act of Parliament Amendment Bill, Marriage Law Amendment Bill, and Irish Grand Juries Bill, orders for second reading discharged. Bleaching Works Bill thrown out on second reading. Union of Contiguous Benefices Bill in committee.

26th.—Limited Liability Bill committed. Turkish Loan Bill read a second time. Committee of Supply, Education Estimates.

Sir William Molesworth has succeeded Lord John Russell as Colonial Secretary; and Sir Benjamin Hall has succeeded Sir W. Molesworth as Chief Commissioner of Works.

The second meeting of the *Administrative Reform Association* was held in Drury Lane Theatre on the 27th ult. The house was crowded. The members of parliament present were Mr. Schofield, Mr. Nowatt, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, Mr. Otway, Mr. Murrough, Mr. Wise, Major Reed, Mr. Layard, and Mr. Tite. The course of proceeding did not differ from that of the former meeting. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Torrens, Mr. M'Culloch, and Mr. Layard. As on the previous occasion no resolutions were moved.

The *Convocation of the Clergy of the Province of Canterbury* assembled on the 28th ult, in pursuance of adjournment from last session. In the Upper House the Bishop of London brought up a report from a committee appointed last session. It contained an opinion signed by her Majesty's Solicitor-General and Dr. R. Phillimore, M. P., pointing out a mode which, with the sanction of the Crown, would be both safe and easy for removing the anomalies at present existing in the representation of the clergy in the Lower House of Convocation. The report further said: "That it appears to them most important that those anomalies should be corrected, in order that the Houses may address themselves to the consideration of the great subject of church extension with the fullest confidence of the church in the clerical body which shall deliberate thereupon; and that they therefore report that, in their opinion, it is to this preliminary point that it would at this time be expedient to limit the address to be presented to her Majesty, and that they have prepared accordingly the heads of such an address." The Bishop of London moved, and the Bishop of Oxford seconded, the adoption of this report. The Bishop of St. Asaph objected to it. He said that the real question at issue was whether it should be an acting, or enacting, or a merely deliberative body. The Archbishop of Canterbury said that the report which had been presented was in direct opposition to that agreed upon last July. It was then decided that it was undesirable to adopt measures for the revival of the active powers of convocation. A debate hereupon arose which was terminated by a division when there appeared:—For the adoption of the report, 6; the Bishops of London, Oxford, Exeter, Salisbury, Gloucester and Bristol, and Bath and Wells. Against it, 3; the Bishops of Winchester, Lincoln, and St. Asaph. The motion was therefore declared carried, and an address to her Majesty in conformity with the recommendations of the report was then agreed to. On the 29th, the Lower House discussed the Bishop of London's report, which was eventually agreed to with some modifications.

The Parliamentary Committee on the *Sale of Beer Act* has had several sittings. The witnesses have consisted principally of the Magistrates of the London Police Courts, the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, and the Commissioner of the City Police. The general purport of the evidence given by the commissioners is, that there has been a decline in the number of cases of drunkenness brought up for adjudication on the Monday; and, on the other hand, there has been a slight increase in Saturday and Tuesday cases. Sir Richard Mayne remarked that the police cases indicate the proportion of one drunkard in 32,000 persons; so that to enforce a restraint upon the one drunkard the inconvenience is imposed on the 32,000 persons. It was stated that there had been two cases of drunkenness from the House of Commons—no reason for punishing the 650. The question as to who is a *bona-fide* traveller was not much elucidated. Almost all the witnesses were in favour of largely modifying the bill—probably, of extending the time of opening from one to eleven o'clock p.m. on Sundays. Among the few witnesses who favoured the bill was Sir Robert Carden—a member of the Maine Liquor Law Association, though not himself a Teetotaler. He would close the houses at ten o'clock, as no honest man ought to be out of his own house after that hour. Nine out of ten that go to a public-house later, he said, are robbers, thieves, prostitutes, and bad characters. Another witness was Mr. George Cruikshank, who would close the public-houses all day on Sundays, and would go beyond the Maine Liquor Law. He denied that there was any inconvenience occasioned by the act: "it was all a disgraceful fuss about drink." Mr. Cruikshank handed in some pictorial sketches, representing the effects of drinking in beer-houses, but they were not received as evidences.

A return has been issued of all *Pensions* granted between the 20th of June, 1854, and the 20th of June, 1855, and charged upon the Civil List. The total amount is 1,200*l.* Mrs. Montague receives 300*l.* in consideration of her husband's services in the penal settlement of Van Diemen's Land from 1824 to 1842; and Eleanor Philippa Ward, Horatio Nelson Ward, and Caroline Mary Ward, the three daughters of Mrs. Horatio Nelson Ward, the daughter of Lord Nelson, the same sum. Georgina Hay Fullarton, widow of the late eminent Scotch judge, Lord Fullarton, receives 200*l.*, and Mrs. Moore, widow of Colonel Moore, who recently lost his life in the Europa transport, 100*l.* Thomas Keightley, 100*l.*, in consideration of his services to historical literature. Mrs. Maria M. Crafer, widow of the late E. T. Crafer, Esq., of the Treasury, 150*l.*; and Annabella Kitto, widow of Dr. Kitto, 50*l.*, in consideration of the services rendered by her husband to Biblical Literature.

A Royal warrant has just been issued, regulating a new grant of *Pensions and Allowances to the Widows of Officers of the Army*. It abolishes all previous warrants upon this subject, and came into operation, regarding the relatives of officers who do not die on active service, upon the 15th instant. With respect to officers killed in action, or dying from wounds or from "illness brought on by the fatigue, privation, and exposure incident to active operations in the field before an enemy," it is applicable from the date of the declaration of war against Russia. The pensions granted in consequence of death in action are, in a few instances, left at their former amount; but in several they are moderately, and in a few cases considerably increased, chiefly in the lower ranks. If an officer killed have no widow, but a widowed mother, she will be allowed the "ordinary" pension; if no widow, children, or mother, but sisters, they will be collectively allowed the ordinary widow's pension. The new class of pensions created by the Royal warrant relates to the widows of officers who die from illness contracted in the field, and who, being hitherto considered of the ordinary class, received only the amount payable in case of death during time of peace; they will henceforward receive a yearly sum midway between the ordinary allowance and that in cases of death in action. We specify the amount according to rank—Colonels, 150*l.*; Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors of the Foot Guards, 145*l.*; Lieutenant-Colonels, 140*l.*; Majors, 100*l.*; Captains and Paymasters,

65*l.*; Lieutenants and Adjutants, 50*l.*; Second Lieutenants, Cornets, and Ensigns, 40*l.*; Quartermasters, 40*l.*, 50*l.*, and 65*l.*, according to length of service; Veterinary Surgeons, 50*l.*, 55*l.*, and 70*l.*, according to length of service; Inspector-Generals of Hospitals, 150*l.*; Deputy ditto, 140*l.*; First-class Staff-Surgeons, 100*l.*; Second-class ditto Regimental Surgeons, 65*l.*; Purveyors, 40*l.*, 50*l.*, and 65*l.*, according to length of service; Assistant-Surgeons, 50*l.*

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

THE case of the late bankers, *Strahan, Paul, and Bates*, is before the Court of Bankruptcy, and likewise before the Bow-street police magistrate. In the Bankruptcy Court, on the 25th of June, a meeting was held before Mr. Commissioner Evans, for proof of debts and choice of assignees; the petitioning creditor being Mr. Tatham, proctor, Great Carter-lane, who claims 1594*l.* balance of account. Several counsel appeared: Mr. Chidley for the Marquis of Clanricarde, Lord Galway, and other creditors, the aggregate in amount being about 250,000*l.*; Mr. Linklater for Sir Lucius Curtis and other creditors; and Mr. Cooper for several noblemen. The balance sheet showed that the gross debts against the firm, irrespective of securities, amount to 680,000*l.* The assets were estimated in round numbers at 150,000*l.* or 160,000*l.*, without reference to the large sums advanced on foreign railroads, and which would represent an item of 276,000*l.* Through Mr. Parry, Mr. Bates, the other partners consenting, laid before the court a complete list of all the securities disposed of by the firm. It contains forty names, many of them the names of ladies: the total value of the securities being 113,625*l.* Mr. Barwiss, navy-agent, New Boswell-court, Mr. Charles Appleyard, solicitor, of Lincoln's Inn, and Mr. Edmund Waller, stationer, Fleet-street, were appointed to act as trade assignees. Messrs. Lawrence, Plews, and Boyer, are solicitors to the assignees; and Mr. Turquand, of Old Jewry Chambers, is accountant to the estate. Among the creditors are—Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Devonshire, Earl of Carnarvon, Viscountess Melbourne, Earl of Dysart, Sir A. Ashton, Sir. C. Coote, Sir Charles Young, Lord Lisburne, Wadham College, Lord Cavendish, Earl Burlington, Mr. W. Spottiswoode, the Queen's printer, the Duke of Rutland, Lord J. R. Manners, the Right Hon. C. C. Manners, Lord Galway, Countess of Craven, Countess of Verulam, Marquis of Clanricarde, Sir Lucius Curtis, Lieutenant-General Thompson, Lord Muncaster, Lieutenant-General Buller, Sir B. Macnamara, Lady Manners, Earl of Bradford. At Bow-street, the three partners have been repeatedly brought for examination on the charge of fraudulently disposing of securities belonging to the Rev. Dr. Griffith, and have been as often remanded, bail being refused.

On Sunday, the 1st inst., there was another *Demonstration against the Sunday Trading Bill* in Hyde Park. At three o'clock, an immense crowd had assembled, and had occupied both sides of the carriage-drive from Apsley-house to Kensington-gardens. Here and there men were speaking against the Sunday Trading Bill. One man told a crowd that he had been invited to accompany Lord Robert Grosvenor to church, but that instead of going to church, Lord Robert had gone out of town, in a hired carriage, lest his own should be recognised. When the police appeared the orators disappeared. The mob hooted, cried "Down with the crushers!" and threw stones; and the police, charging them and using their truncheons, knocked down and captured considerable numbers. At four o'clock seven cabs filled with prisoners drove to the Vine-street station. Still the riot continued. Some soldiers mingled with the crowd, and took the part of the multitude. One man, pursued by the constables, jumped into the Serpentine; but, showing signs of weakness, the Illumane Society's men rescued him from the water, and the police claimed him as a prisoner. Comparatively few horsemen and carriages had entered the drive; but those who did ran great risk, for the mob frightened all the horses with a horrible uproar; then the police made an onslaught, striking and capturing

right and left. But the crowd increased, and about six o'clock fresh divisions of police were ordered up. Numbers assembled in front of Lord Robert Grosvenor's house, which was guarded by a strong force. It was not till late in the evening that the park was cleared. A number of prisoners were brought before the Marlborough-street magistrate next day, some of them respectable persons. One of them was a gentleman named Mair. A constable said that Mr. Mair refused, when ordered, to "move on"; that he put up his stick, and that then the constable took him into custody. Some evidence of the harsh conduct of the police was given. Mr. Mair denied that he had committed an assault. He was admitted to bail on his own recognisance. The rioting was continued in Marlborough-street on Monday night, and consequently a number of prisoners were brought before the magistrate. Some were discharged, and others were fined in various sums from 2s. 6d. to 20s.

A third attempt of a similar kind was made on the following Sunday, the 8th instant. A crowd assembled in the Park, and while there were peaceable. About five o'clock, however, the main body left the Park, gathered in a dense mass at the head of Grosvenor-place, and shouted at the carriages. Cabs and omnibuses were permitted to go by unmolested, but the only exception otherwise made was in favour of Lord Cardigan, who was recognised as he drove past, and heartily cheered. Lord Palmerston passed along on horseback. The mob did not recognise him; but they made an uproar, resembling cheers, to frighten his horse. After a few minutes of obstruction, during which the premier bowed, he was allowed to proceed. Lord Brougham also passed, with a humorous smile on his face; to which and the steadiness of his horse he probably owed the quietness with which he was permitted to go on his way. By and by the young reprobates, who did all the mischief, passed through Belgrave-square, Upper Belgrave-street, Eaton-square, and other places, smashing windows with untiring perseverance, and attempting to fire the straw in front of Lord Sefton's house. Admiral Sir George Seymour, who resides at No. 115, Eaton-square, indignant at the wanton destruction of property committed, sallied forth and severely chastised one of the offenders. He was assailed, however, by a shower of stones, and, being badly cut on the head, was compelled to retire. When the police came up in force, the mob rapidly disappeared. Among those which suffered the most were the mansions of the Earl of Sefton, in Belgrave-square; of the Duke of Marlborough, at the corner of Upper Belgrave-street; of Lady Somers, and of Count Kielmansgege, the Hanoverian ambassador, in Wilton-street. The Archbishop of York's residence has also suffered, and a large number of fine plate-glass windows have been entirely destroyed. There was also a wanton destruction of windows in Park Village East and the Hampstead-road, by a mob headed by two privates of the Guards. Several prisoners were brought before the Westminster, Marlborough and Marylebone police courts on Monday. Some were fined and ordered to find bail to keep the peace. The two privates of the Guards, Hutchins and Ford, and six boys, were charged with having taken part in the Albany-street and Hampstead-road riots, where damage was done to the extent of 300*l.* It was clearly shown that the two soldiers headed the mob, waving their canes, and crying, "Come on, boys!" Two of the boys, Tanner and Kelly, one eighteen, the other sixteen years of age, were also implicated. Mr. Bodkin stated that the government intend to prosecute these four by indictment. Remanded. The other lads were discharged with a warning from the Marylebone magistrate.

Mr. William Corfield, solicitor of Gray's-inn-square, has been remanded by the Clerkenwell magistrate on a serious charge—attempting to *Extort Money* from Mr. Alexander William Radford, of Audlem, in Cheshire. Mr. Radford's son, while at college, got into debt; had recourse to the money-lenders, and then went abroad. His father directed his solicitors to pay all just claims against the young man. Mr. Corfield claimed 250*l.* for procuring money; the demand was resisted as unfounded; he reduced it at a stroke to 150*l.*; and he threatened, if it were not at once paid, that he would post bills

around Audlem for the apprehension of young Radford for "forgeries" and "perjuries;" this was the attempt to extort money, which Mr. Radford resolved to punish.

At the Central Criminal Court, on the 2nd instant, Charles William Winchelsea Bevan, formerly secretary to the Deposit Insurance Company, who was acquitted on one charge at the last Sessions, was tried for *Stealing Three Orders for the Payment of Money*. These were cheks signed by the directors, and intended to be paid to medical gentlemen who had acted for the company: Bevan paid them to his own bankers. The defence set up was, that the directors were very lax in conducting the business of the company; leaving nearly everything to Bevan, who thought he might pay the cheks to his own bankers without any criminality. The prosecution, it was alleged, arose from spite: Bevan it was who had made the business of the company; when his irregularities were discovered, the directors entered into a compromise; but as Bevan joined another company they prosecuted him. The jury found the prisoner guilty, but recommended him to mercy, on account of the loose manner in which business was conducted at the office. When the Recorder passed sentence, he severely lectured the prisoner; pointing out that the defence attempted to be set up was unwarrantable. The prisoner had been treated liberally; he knew he was acting wrongly; and his imputations against the directors were untrue—their conduct had not been disgraceful. The sentence was eighteen months' imprisonment.

An action of some interest on a *Bank of England Note* was tried before the Court of Common Pleas on the 3rd instant. The action was brought by Raphael and Co. against the Bank of England for the recovery of the value of a note for 500*l.* The note was one of many stolen at Liverpool in 1852. On the 26th June, 1854, one Howard presented the note at the money-changing house of St. Paul and Co., Paris. Seeing the value of the note, Mr. Vincent St. Paul asked to see Howard's passport; which was found regular, and he changed the note, remitting it the same day to Raphael and Co. in London. When Raphael and Co. presented the note to the Bank, payment was refused. The questions for the jury were—whether the money was paid; whether the notices of the robbery were served on St. Paul; and if so, whether St. Paul had the means of knowing of the robbery at the time they changed the note? The jury held that the full value of the note was given; that the notices were served; that St. Paul, had he taken care of the notices, might have known, but that he did not know of the robbery; and that Raphael and Co. took the note *bond fide*. Verdict for the plaintiff, 53*l.*

In the Second Court, sitting at Guildhall, a curious action for *Breach of an Agreement* was tried. Miss Thomas, the daughter of an attorney at Wigan, was engaged by Miss O'Beirne, the proprietress of a ladies' school at Grove-house, Hammersmith, for, as she alleged, six months, as an assistant. She remained three months at the school, but on returning after the Easter vacation, Miss O'Beirne refused to receive her. She alleged that Miss Thomas had only gone to her on trial, on the understanding that if she suited she should be engaged for six months; that Miss Thomas did not suit, because she was incompetent, and "deficient in example;" and that, even had there been an engagement, it was void in consequence of the improper conduct of the young lady. The improper conduct was this. One of the girls, Miss Traill, received a flattering valentine, and showed it to all her schoolfellow and the teachers. It was signed "An Officer," and to keep up the joke, Miss Thomas caused a love-letter, concocted by the school-girls, and again signed "An Officer," to be copied by one of her father's clerks, and posted to Miss Traill. This letter, the schoolmistress alleged, unsettled the mind of her pupil. With the permission of Miss O'Beirne, Miss Thomas had also acted in charades, on St. Patrick's Day, in the character of a Highland gentleman. Moreover, Miss O'Beirne alleged that the young lady played practical jokes, such as sticking a ball of cotton under the coat-collar of the writing-master. The jury, however, were satisfied from the evidence that the plaintiff was in the right, and gave her 20*l.* damages.

At the Oxford Assizes, held at Worcester on the 18th instant, Joseph Meadows, aged 23, a whitesmith, was charged with the wilful *Murder* of Mary Ann Mason, at Dudley, on the 12th of May last. The deceased was servant at a public-house called the Sailor's Return. The prisoner had passed there as her brother, but was her lover, and had been discarded after a courtship of some months. He went to the public-house armed with a carbine, which he managed to conceal until he had an opportunity of discharging it in the unfortunate girl's face. The charge consisted of shot, some of which entered the tongue, while a wound behind the ear was mortal. She died in less than fifteen minutes. The prisoner, who was not sober, was at once captured, and made a voluntary confession of his crime, which he said he had long intended. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentence of death was passed upon him.

The *Affair of Mr. E. O'Flaherty* was revived in the case of Richardson v. Gregory, tried in the Dublin Court of Queen's Bench on the 30th of June. It was an action on a bill purporting to be signed by Mr. W. H. Gregory, late M.P. Mr. Gregory pleaded that the bills were forgeries, and the jury, after hearing the evidence, gave verdict to the same effect.

The Commission appointed to inquire into the *Conduct of the Police in Hyde Park, on the 1st of July*, assembled in the Court of Exchequer, at Westminster, on Tuesday the 17th inst., and have continued their sittings. Mr. Stuart Wortley acted as president of the court, Mr. Henderson and Mr. Armstrong sitting with him. Mr. Ellis, of the firm of Lyon, Barnes, and Ellis, attended on behalf of the police, and Mr. Mitchell for several aggrieved persons. A great number of witnesses have been examined. The witnesses included gentlemen, officers of the army, barristers, master tailors, master builders, tradesmen, workmen, men and women servants, and others. Without exception, these witnesses averred that the crowd was respectable and orderly, and that the riot was entirely provoked by the police. The constables are described as charging in all directions, beating persons without provocation or warning, and threatening them with severe punishment. Some persons were inclosed between two bodies, and knocked about from one to another. One young man was thrown violently over the rails. The case of Mr. Mair was amply made out, so far as witnesses on his side go. He was arrested, with great roughness, confined with six persons in a room ten feet by seven, and suffered severely in health in consequence. The case of Mr. Stephens was still worse. He was walking home with a relation of his wife. There was a slight rush of the people near Grosvenor-street. He was struck on the back; turning round, a policeman struck him repeated blows with a truncheon, felling him to the ground. He told the police that he was merely a passer-by. A gentleman from a neighbouring balcony called out, "Take their numbers!" On attempting to do so, he received a violent blow on the back of the ear, and remembered nothing more until he was placed in a cab. This story was fully corroborated by several witnesses, including the gentleman on the balcony. John King, a youth, was knocked down, and struck three times while on the ground. James Fassie was disabled for a week by a blow from D 20. James Martin, one of the Naval Brigade, wounded in four places, was struck on one of his wounds several times by A 349. Adam Houlding, going to see what was the matter, "found himself in the middle of a ring of policemen," and was arrested. In the Humane Society's yard, he saw a policeman beat a prisoner with his fist. George Coulshaw was lifted up by the police and flung over the rails among the people. John Thomas King saw A 147 break a woman's head. Mr. Hugh Bates Maxwell, brother of Sir William Maxwell, seeing the police driving the people, asked what this meant? and, instead of receiving any reply, a policeman, whom he should recognise, seized him by the collar, and pitched him forward, at the same time giving witness a blow on the back with his truncheon. A great quantity of similar testimony having been given, the Commission proceeded to examine witnesses on behalf of the police, and the investigation still continues.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

THE barque Abberton, of London, from the Chincha Islands, with a cargo of guano, *Foundered* off the coast of Patagonia, on the 25th of May. The officers and crew, after being eight days and nights in the long boat, were picked up by the Cypress, of London, and carried to Pernambuco.

On the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, the *Roof of the Outwaite Tunnel Fell* in on the 14th inst. A goods train passed through at nine o'clock in the morning, when all appeared safe. A quarter of an hour afterwards two workmen heard the roof fall, and gave warning just in time to stop a passenger train from Penistone. The passengers and their luggage were conveyed over the interrupted portion by omnibuses and carts. The stratum for a great thickness above the roof of the tunnel is soft shale. The heavy rain of Saturday morning penetrated the shale, and added so much to its weight, that it burst in the roof of the tunnel.

A *Railway Accident* took place on Sunday the 15th inst., on the Midland line. As the morning train from Mansfield to Nottingham was proceeding over Ilkeston Moor, the engine was suddenly thrown off the rails, and ran for about 70 yards on the side of the rails, and was then precipitated down an embankment, dragging with it the tender and partially dislodging the first carriage from the rails. Fortunately, the couplings broke, so the remaining carriages were not displaced. The driver was tossed into the hedge, and escaped in a wonderful manner without injury. Four or five of the passengers came in collision by the concussion, but a few bruises were the only result.

A fatal *Colliery Accident* happened on the 15th inst. Three men and a boy went down into a coalpit at Dukinfield, Cheshire, to feed some horses left in the mine. A young man, named Charles Bebbington, had charge of the steam-engine, over which he lost all command, so that, when the men reached the pit-mouth, they were drawn with great force over the pulley, 50 feet above the pit, and hurled to a great distance. Three of them were thrown into a reservoir 40 yards distance, whilst another was thrown a great way in a contrary direction. They all received severe injuries, causing almost instant death. At the inquest a verdict was returned of culpable negligence against Bebbington, who was committed.

An inquest was held on the 17th inst., on the body of Mr. Joseph Ryan, commercial clerk, who was *Drowned* in the Grand Junction Trunk of the Royal Surrey Canal. It appeared that the deceased, accompanied by two friends, proceeded to the Surrey Canal to bathe. He was not perfectly sober, but insisted on going into the water, and in swimming from one bank to the other he became exhausted, and was nearly drowned. One of his friends seeing the difficulty he had in reaching the opposite bank, told him that he would bring his clothes, but he jumped in again to return, and sank almost immediately, the body not being recovered for about two hours. The coroner said that when the system was excited with drink, if a person plunged into the water, it almost in every case produced apoplexy. He hoped that the knowledge of such a fact would act as a caution. Verdict "Accidental death."

The Rev. S. Sunderland, vicar of Penistone, in Yorkshire, was accidentally *Killed* on the 18th inst., by the upsetting of an omnibus, heavily laden, between Chatsworth and Rowsley. He was thrown out, and so much injured that he died almost immediately.

Lately, at the works of Messrs. Cummings, machinists, Belmont, near Bolton, a man met with a melancholy *Accident* whilst oiling some machinery in motion. His arm was caught by a wheel making about 100 revolutions per minute, and he was carried round with it bodily, two of his limbs being literally torn off, his head smashed to pieces, and his body shockingly mutilated.

Miss Wetherby, a young lady residing with her family at Broadstairs, has lost her life by *Falling from the Cliff* between that place and Ramsgate. She was walking and reading on the verge of the precipice when this lamentable accident happened.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen held an Investiture of the Order of the Bath on the 7th inst., when a large number of distinguished officers were decorated. Among the principal were Vice-Admiral Deans Dundas, Lieutenant-General the Duke of Cambridge and Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans, who were Knighted, and invested with the Grand Cross of the Military Division; and Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy, Colonel Cantley, and Colonel Justin Shiel, who were made Knights Commanders of the Civil Division.

Her Majesty inspected one hundred wounded Guards at Buckingham Palace on the 9th inst. She subsequently gave audience to Prince Ghulam Mahomed, and Prince Feroze Shah, the son and grandson of Tippoo Saib; who took leave of her Majesty on their return to India.

The Queen left town on the 10th inst. for Osborne, accompanied by the King of the Belgians, visiting the camp at Aldershot by the way.

Mr. Justice Maule has retired from the bench of the Common Pleas, after sixteen years of service. The Lord Chancellor has supplied his place by Mr. J. S. Willes, of the Home Circuit.

The Directors of the East India Company have appointed Lord Canning Governor-General of India, and her Majesty has approved of the selection of the Court.

The Duke of Northumberland has contributed the site for a church at Isleworth, and 2000*l.* towards the erection of the building: the Duchess Dowager has added 500*l.* to this sum.

The Queen has granted apartments in Hampton Court Palace to the widows of General Strangways and Admiral Boxer.

Miss Nightingale is at Therapia, and does not intend to return to England unless obliged by the state of her health.

The Duke of Newcastle has gone to the Crimea: his arrival at Vienna was noted at the end of last week.

Her Majesty has appointed Miss Fanny Cathcart, second surviving daughter of the late Sir George Cathcart, to be one of her Maids of Honour.

Sir Charles Napier lately received a summons to attend at Court for the purpose of being installed. He, however, declined the proffered boon. The reason assigned by the gallant Admiral, says the *United Service Gazette*, if not officially given, is well known to his friends. "I have been," he says, "censured and degraded, and have been denied the opportunity of clearing my reputation. Yet am I now offered a G. C. B."—

Professor Alman, of Trinity College, Dublin, has been appointed to the chair of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh.

The widow of Count Batthyany, after ceding all her fortune to her heirs, and distributing 20,000 florins for her domestics, has entered the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, founded by her at Pinkafeld, upon the frontiers of Hungary. She assumes the name of "Sister Fanny."

In a work called "The Island Empire," lately published, there appeared an account of an octogenarian gardener of the late Emperor Napoleon, still living on the island of Elba. One of the first acts of Count Walewski has been to inform the author of the work that the French Consul at Porto Ferrajo had been directed to supply the wants of the old man, and to make his last days easy by pecuniary aid.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

THE EARL OF CALEDON died on the 30th of June, at his house in Carlton-house-terrace, in his 43rd year.

JOHN BLACK, Esq., late editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, the oldest and one of the most respected members of the London Press, died on the 24th of June, in his 72nd year.

Madame ENILÉ DE GIRARDIN (formerly Mademoiselle Delphine Gay) died on the 1st inst. at Paris.

SIR MICHAEL DILLON BELLEV, Bart., of Mount Bellevue, in the county of Galway, died on the 3rd inst. at Rathmines, in his 58th year. A few days since he received the intelligence of the death of his fourth son, Lieut. W. Bellevue, from the effects of wounds received at the taking of the Quarries before Sebastopol.

ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES EKINS, G.C.B., died on the 2nd inst., at the age of 87 years.

THE HON. CRAVEN FITZHARDINGE BERKELEY, M.P. for Cheltenham, died on the 1st inst., at Frankfort, in his 50th year.

ADMIRAL THE MARQUIS OF THOMOND, G.C.H., died at Bath on the 3rd inst.

MR. JAMES SILK BUCKINGHAM, the well-known lecturer and writer, died on the 30th ult., in his 60th year, at Stanhope Lodge, Upper Avenue-road, after a severe and protracted illness.

SIR WILLIAM EDWARD PARRY, the distinguished leader of four expeditions to the Arctic regions, died at Ems, in Germany, on the 8th inst.

ADMIRAL SIR JOHN OMMANNEY, K.C.B., died at Warblington, Hants, on the 5th inst., aged 82.

PHILIP PUSEY, Esq., of Pusey Park, Farringdon, Berks, and late M.P. for that county, died on the 9th inst., at the residence of his brother, the Rev. Dr. Pusey, Christchurch College, Oxford, in the 57th year of his age.

SIR ROBERT ABERCROMBY, Bart., the chief of the clan of Abercromby, died on the 6th inst., at Forgen House, the family seat in Banffshire.

THE EARL OF ANTRIM died at Glenarm Castle on the 18th inst., aged 43.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE intelligence by the last *Overland Mail* is not important. In Burmah, Captain Madigan, of the Eighty-fourth regiment, employed in erecting telegraph posts between Donabew and Henzadah, was, on the 23rd April, tied to a tree and speared to death, in revenge for the execution of a son of one of the chiefs. It is thought, as his property was untouched, that he was mistaken for political agent. The murderers of Captain Latter, who was assassinated in camp during the war, have all been discovered. On the 30th April, 2000 hillmen, robbers of the Terar tribe, attacked the British post at Dersanund, fifty-five miles West of Kohat. It was defended by Major Coke, who had under his command a troop of the Fourth Punjab Cavalry and a company of the First Punjab Infantry. The robbers were first driven back by a cavalry charge, and finally routed by the infantry.

From China the news is that the Tartar Emperor is dead; that the rebellion makes little progress; but that the people were suffering severely from famine, caused mainly by the devastations of the rebels and the instability of order. Sir John Bowring had expeditiously negotiated an important treaty with Siam. He landed

on the 3rd April, began active deliberations with the Siamese commissioners on the 9th; and on the 18th the treaty was signed. Among its more important provisions, are the right of having a consul in Siam; the right to build ships in the Menane; and the right to rent or purchase lands within a twenty-four hours' journey of Bangkok.

The dates from the *West Indies* are to the end of June. The accounts speak very favourably of the crops.

Advices from *Melbourne* come down to the middle of April. The commercial and industrial prospects of Victoria were decidedly mending. More attention was bestowed upon the land: gold-production bid fair to increase; building had recommenced, and rent was much less than formerly. The imports on the quarter were 3,117,854*l.* It was expected that this rate would not be kept up. The imports last year were 17,000,000*l.* The commissioners appointed to inquire into the administration of the gold-fields have made their report to the executive, and it has been presented to the council by command of the lieutenant-governor. The principal

recommendations are—first, the abolition of the licence-fee and the substitution of an export duty of 2s. 6d. per ounce; second, the enfranchisement of the diggers; third, the introduction of a system of leasing auriferous lands; fourth, the introduction of mining partnerships on the English “cost-book” system; together with other minor changes. The government have introduced bills to carry out the recommendations. Chinese

immigration had become a grievance: it was proposed to put some restriction on the incomings of the flower people, and the government had the subject under consideration. The census of population on the 26th April 1851 set down the males at 155,886, the females at 80,912. It is estimated that up to the middle of April 1855 this number had increased by upwards of 53,000; but the increase by births is only 2000 in the year.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

OUR last month's narrative of the *Siege of Sebastopol* closed with the first accounts of the unsuccessful attack by the Allies on the Redan and the Malakoff tower, on the 18th of June. A great quantity of interesting details, both official and unofficial, have since been received, which furnish materials for a connected account of this very serious affair.

It appears that the principal attack fell to the lot of the French, as opposite to their advanced trenches on the extreme right lay the strongest positions of the enemy—the Malakoff tower and the works on its proper left. It was arranged also that the British should attack the Redan at the moment which Lord Raglan should deem most fitting. At first the generals, suspecting, what proved to be the case, that the enemy would repair in the night the damage done by the crushing fire of the 17th, resolved that a two-hours cannonade should precede the assault: late in the evening, however, General Pélissier informed Lord Raglan that he should not wait for the cannon to clear the way, but assault at three o'clock in the morning. Three French divisions, numbering about 25,000 men, were to engage in the direct assault; one posted on the extreme right, under General Mayran, was to carry the extreme left of the Russians; the second in the centre, under General Brunet, was directed to turn the Malakoff on its proper left; while the third, under General d'Autemarre, was to manoeuvre on its proper right, so as to carry the work. The imperial guard formed the reserve. Two batteries of artillery were ready in the Mamelon to occupy the enemy's positions if they were carried. The signal for the assault was to be three rockets fired from the Lancaster battery by General Pélissier. But an accident frustrated the whole plan. General Pélissier's dispatch gives a narrative of the combat.

“I was still more than 1000 metres from the spot where I was to give the signal, when a brisk fusillade, mingled with grape-shot, told me that the action had been seriously commenced towards the right. In fact, shortly before three o'clock, General Mayran thought he saw my signal in a bomb with its flaming fuse that had been fired off from the Brancion redoubt. He was informed, but to no purpose, of his mistake. This brave and unfortunate general gave the order to commence the attack. The columns of Saurin and de Failly dashed forwards at once. The first rush was magnificent; but hardly had these heads of columns advanced when they were assailed by a shower of balls and grape. This overwhelming grape came not merely from the works we wanted to carry, but from the enemy's steamers also, which arrived with full steam on, and manoeuvred with equal good fortune and skill. We, however, must have inflicted some damage on them. This prodigious fire arrested the effort of our troops. It became impossible for our soldiers to march forwards, but not one made a single step in retreat. It was then that General Mayran, twice hit already, was struck down by grape-shot, and compelled to give up the command of his division. All this was the work of a moment; and General Mayran had been already carried off the field of battle, when I gave the signal from the spot I had reached of the Lancaster battery. The other troops then engaged in order to support the premature movement of the division on the right. This valiant division, disunited for an instant by the loss of its general, rallied promptly to the voice of General de Failly. The troops engaged, supported by the second battalion of the 95th regiment of the line, and one

battalion of the voltigeurs of the guard, under the orders of the brave Colonel Boudville, kept firm near a ridge, where the general placed them, and maintained their ground with intrepidity. In the meantime, being informed of this situation, which might become critical, I gave orders to General Regnault de Saint-Jean d'Angély to send four battalions of the voltigeurs of the guard, taken from the general reserve, to the succour of this division. Generals Melinet and Uhrich marched with this fine troop, rallied what was scattered in the Careening ravine, and came up with their solid support to General de Failly, by occupying the bottom of the ravine. General Melinet repaired in person to General de Failly's right with a battalion of grenadiers, which had been attached the evening before to the guard at the ravine, and was very useful to him by securing his right. The central attack had no better success. General Brunet had not yet been able to complete all his arrangements, when the cluster of rockets that were to serve as the signal burst in the air. For twenty or five-and-twenty minutes all the right had already been prematurely engaged. Nevertheless, his troops marched with resolution; but their valour failed under the steady fire of the Russians, and against unforeseen obstacles. At the outset, General Brunet was mortally wounded by a musket-ball in the centre of his chest. The flag of the 91st was broken by a ball: but it is needless to add that these glorious fragments were brought back by this brave regiment. General Lafont de Villiers took the command of the division, and confided that of the troops engaged to Colonel Lorencez. These kept steady while the rest of the division occupied the trenches, to be prepared against the eventualities of the combat. On the left, General D'Autemarre had not been able to engage before Brunet's division: besides, he could not account for the hurried fire of musketry he heard in the direction of the Careening Bay. But at the signal appointed for the assault, he let loose with impetuosity the 5th Foot Chasseurs and the 1st battalion of the 19th regiment of the line; who by keeping along the crest of the Karabelnaia ravine, reached the intrenchment that connects it with the Malakoff tower, scaled this intrenchment, and thus entered the enceinte itself. Already the sappers of the engineers were planting the ladders for the remainder of the 19th and 26th regiments, whose general, D'Autemarre, was hurrying on the movement behind his valiant head of the column. One instant we could believe in success. Our eagles had been planted on the Russian works. Unfortunately, this hope was speedily dissipated. Our allies had encountered such obstacles in their attack of the great Redan, and they had met such a fire of grape, that, in spite of their well-known tenacity, they had been already compelled to make a movement of retreat. Such was the spirit of our troops, that despite this circumstance, they would have pushed on and continued to charge home the enemy; but the want of simultaneous action in the attack of our divisions left the Russians free to overwhelm us with the reserves and the artillery of the great Redan; and the enemy lost not a moment to direct against our brave foot chasseurs all the other reserves of Karabelnaia. Before such imposing forces, the Commandant Garnier, of the 5th battalion, already wounded five times with gun-shot, endeavoured, but in vain, to hold the ground that had been won. Obliged to retire before numbers, he recrossed the intrenchment. General Niol rallied his brigade, reinforced by the 39th of the line: they wished to attempt a fresh offensive movement, in order to insure the success of this new

effort; and on word being sent by General D'Autemarre that his reserve was reduced to the 7th of the line, I sent him the regiment of the Zouaves of the guard: but on the arrival of these veterans of our African wars, the movement no longer having the unity so desirable for a coup of this vigour, with one single division unsupported either on the right or on the left, and cut up by the artillery of the Redan, against which our Allies were suspending their attack, I did not fail soon to perceive that every favourable chance was exhausted. A fresh effort would merely have occasioned a useless effusion of blood. It was half-past eight. I gave orders in all directions to return to the trenches. This operation was effected with dignity, much order and coolness, and without pursuit of the enemy on any one point. A part of the Russian trenches still continued even to be held by our men, who got away in succession; nor did the enemy venture to profit by his advantages and attack them. Our loss has been great. We took care from the very commencement of the action to remove most of the men hit by the enemy; but a certain number of these glorious dead remained stretched upon the glacis or in the moats of the place. The last honours were paid them on the following day."

General Pélissier says that the Russians were evidently informed of the plan of the Allies, and were on their guard. He admits, however, that he may have been mistaken in thinking that the Russians had suffered so severely as was anticipated from the Allied artillery, and that it is probable the enemy wished to spare his guns and reserve his fire; but he also thinks, although the Russians were on their guard, "that if the attack could have been general and instantaneous along the whole extent of the line—if there had been suddenness and unity of action in the efforts of our brave troops—the object would have been attained."

Lord Raglan, in his despatch of the 19th of June, describes the English attack on the Redan as—"My Lord—I informed your Lordship, on the 16th, that new batteries had been completed, and that in consequence the Allies would be enabled to resume the offensive against Sebastopol with the utmost vigour. Accordingly, on the 17th, at daylight, a heavy fire was opened from all the batteries in the English and French trenches, and maintained throughout the day; and the effect produced appeared so satisfactory that it was determined that the French should attack the Malakoff works the next morning, and that the English should assail the Redan as soon after as I might consider it desirable. It was at first proposed that the artillery fire should be resumed on the morning of the 18th, and should be kept up for about two hours, for the purpose of destroying any works the enemy might have thrown up in the night, and of opening passages through the abattis that covered the Redan: but on the evening of the 17th it was intimated to me by General Pélissier, that he had determined, upon further consideration, that the attack by his troops should take place at three the following morning. The French therefore commenced their operations as day broke; and as their several columns came within range of the enemy's fire they encountered the most serious opposition both from musketry and the guns in the works which had been silenced the previous evening: and, observing this, I was induced at once to order our columns to move out of the trenches upon the Redan. It had been arranged that detachments from the Light, Second, and Fourth Divisions, which I placed for the occasion under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, should be formed into three columns; that the right one should attack the left face of the Redan between the flanking batteries; that the centre should advance upon the salient angle; and that the left should move upon the re-entering angle formed by the right face and flank of the work, the first and last preceding the centre column. The flank columns at once obeyed the signal to advance; preceded by covering parties of the Rifle Brigade, and by sailors carrying ladders and soldiers carrying wool-hags, but they had no sooner shown themselves beyond the trenches than they were assailed by a most murderous fire of grape and musketry. Those in advance were either killed or wounded, and the remainder found it impossible to proceed. I never

before witnessed such a continued and heavy fire of grape combined with musketry from the enemy's works, which appeared to be fully manned: and the long list of killed and wounded in the Light and Fourth Divisions, and the seamen of the Naval Brigade, under Captain Peel, who was unfortunately wounded, though not severely, will show that a very large proportion of those that went forward fell. Major-General Sir John Campbell, who led the left attack, and Colonel Shadforth, of the 57th, who commanded the storming party under his direction, were both killed; as was also Colonel Yea, of the Royal Fusiliers, who had led the right column. I cannot say too much in praise of these officers. Major-General Sir John Campbell had commanded the Fourth Division from the period of the battle of Inkerman till the arrival, very recently, of Lieutenant-General Bentinck. He had devoted himself to his duty without any intermission, and had acquired the confidence and respect of all. I most deeply lament his loss. Colonel Shadforth had maintained the efficiency of his regiment by constant attention to all the details of his command; and Colonel Yea was not only distinguished for his gallantry, but had exercised his control of the Royal Fusiliers in such a manner as to win the affections of the soldiers under his orders, and to secure to them every comfort and accommodation which his personal exertions could procure for them. I shall not be able to send your Lordship correct lists of the killed and wounded by this opportunity, but I will forward them by telegraph as soon as they are made out. I have not any definite information upon the movements of the French columns; and the atmosphere became so obscured by the smoke from the guns and musketry that it was not possible by personal observation to ascertain their progress, though I was particularly well situated for the purpose: but I understand that their left column, under General D'Autemarre, passed the advanced works of the enemy and threatened the gorge of the Malakoff tower; and that the two other columns, under Generals Mayran and Brunet, who both, I regret to say, were killed, met with obstacles equal to those we encountered, and were obliged in consequence to abandon the attack. The superiority of our fire on the day we opened led both General Pélissier and myself, and the officers of the Artillery and Engineers of the two services, and the armies in general, to conclude that the Russian artillery fire was in a great measure subdued, and that the operation we projected could be undertaken with every prospect of success. The result has shown that the resources of the enemy were not exhausted, and that they had still the power, either from their ships or from their batteries, to bring an overwhelming fire upon their assailants. While the direct attack upon the Redan was proceeding, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard England was directed to send one of the brigades of the Third Division, under the command of Major-General Barnard, down the Woronoff ravine, with a view to give support to the attacking columns on his right, and the other brigade, under Major-General Eyre, still further to the left, to threaten the works at the head of the Dockyard creek. I have not yet received their reports, and shall not be able to send them to your Lordship to day; but General Eyre was very seriously engaged, and he himself wounded, though I am happy to say not severely; and he possessed himself of a churchyard which the enemy had hitherto carefully watched, and some houses within the place; but, as the town front was not attacked, it became necessary to withdraw his brigade at night. I shall make a special report upon this by the next mail, and I shall avail myself of the same opportunity to name to you the officers who have been particularly mentioned to me. I am concerned to have to inform you, that Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, whose services I have had the greatest pleasure in bringing so frequently to your Lordship's notice, is very severely wounded. The account I received of him this morning is upon the whole satisfactory, and I entertain strong hopes that his valuable life will be preserved. I feel greatly indebted to Sir George Brown for the manner in which he conducted the duties I entrusted to him; and my warmest acknowledgments are due to Major-General

Harry Jones, not only for his valuable assistance on the present occasion, but for the able, zealous, and energetic manner in which he has conducted the siege operations since he assumed the command of the Royal Engineers. He received a wound from a grape-shot in the forehead yesterday, which I trust will not prove serious. I brought up the First Division from the vicinity of Balaklava as a reserve, and I shall retain them on these heights. The Sardinian troops under General la Marmora and the Turkish troops under Omar Pasha crossed the Tchernaya on the 17th instant, and occupy positions in front of Tchorgoun. They have not come in contact with any large body of the enemy.

"I have, &c.

RAGLAN."

"P.S. I enclose lists of casualties in the Naval Brigade to the 18th instant inclusive. I regret to say these are heavy."

In a subsequent despatch dated the 23rd of June, Lord Raglan gives further particulars of the attack:— "I informed your lordship, in my despatch of the 19th instant, that I would make a more special report upon the movements of the 3rd division as soon as I should receive the reports of Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. England and the major-generals commanding brigades under him. The 1st brigade, under Major-Gen. Barnard, proceeded down the Woronzow road, and was placed in position on the right of the ravine, ready to co-operate with the columns of attack on the right; whilst the 2nd brigade, under Major-Gen. Eyre, moved down the ravine which separates the left of the English from the right of the French advanced works, for the purpose of attacking the enemy's ambuscades, and making a demonstration on the head of the dockyard Creek. This service was performed with the utmost gallantry, and notwithstanding that they were exposed to a most galling fire, the troops maintained themselves in the position they had taken up during the day, and in the evening withdrew unmolested, leaving a post at the cemetery, which had been one of the objects of the attack in the morning. The action having from circumstances become a most serious one, I beg, as the most satisfactory way of making your lordship acquainted with the particulars, to lay a copy of the major-general's letter before your lordship, and to solicit your attention to the officers whose services he particularly notices, and at the same time to his distinguished conduct. Your lordship will see with concern that the loss sustained by this brigade is very considerable, and that Major-General Eyre is himself wounded; but I have every reason to hope that the injury he has received is not very severe, and will not incapacitate him from the discharge of his duty with the same energy and devotion as he has already applied himself to its performance during the protracted operations before Sebastopol. Lieut.-Gen. Sir G. Brown, to whose able assistance I referred in my former despatch, has specially brought to my notice the distinguished conduct of Colonel Yea, who was killed, and pays a just tribute to the great merits of this deeply-lamented officer; of Lieut.-Col. Lysons, of the 23rd; Lieut.-Col. Johnstone, of the 33rd; and Capt. Gwilt, of the 34th, all of whom are wounded; of Major-Gen. Codrington, who commanded the light division; of Capt. Blackett, of the Rifle Brigade, who has lost a leg; and of Capt. Forman, of the Rifle Brigade, who fell upon the occasion; and Major-Gen. Codrington mentions the admirable conduct of Capt. Turner, of the 7th Foot; Major Macdonnell, of the Rifle Brigade; Lieut. Knox, of the Rifle Brigade, who is wounded; and Lieut. Donovan, of the 33rd. Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. England speaks highly of Col. Cobble, of the 4th regiment, who commanded in the trenches of the left attack, and is severely wounded; and Lieut.-Gen. Bentinck eulogises the conduct of Col. Lord West, of the 21st Foot, who assumed the command of the left column, after the death of Major-Gen. Sir J. Campbell; of Lieut.-Col. Warre, who succeeded to the command of the 57th regiment, on the death of Col. Shadforth; of Lieut.-Col. Cole, commanding 17th regt.; and of Capt. Croker (who was killed), Gordon, M'Kinstry, and O'Conor, and Lieut. Thompson, of the 17th regt.; and Lieut. Shadwell Clerke, of the 21st regiment; and colour-serjeant Colcliffe and serjeant Pratt, of the 17th; and Capt. the Hon. J. Stuart, and

Lieuts. Boileau (who is severely wounded) and Saunders, of the Rifle Brigade. Major-Gen. H. Jones reports most favourably of the services of the following officers of Engineers: Lieut.-Col. Gordon, Lieut.-Col. Chapman, Lieut.-Col. Tyklen, Lieut. Donnelly, Lieut. Fisher, and he deeply laments the loss of Capt. Jesse, Lieut. Graves, and Lieut. Murray, who fell upon the occasion. I must express my obligations to Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. England, Lieut.-Gen. Pennefather, Lieut.-Gen. Bentinck, and Major-Gen. Codrington, for the able manner in which they conducted their duties; and I avail myself of the present opportunity to inform your lordship that Lieut.-Gen. Pennefather, who was then labouring under illness, is now in so bad a state of health as to be under the necessity of withdrawing from the army. I shall deeply regret his departure, entertaining the highest opinion of him, and knowing his devotion to her Majesty's service. I must not omit to mention the following officers of the Royal Navy, who particularly distinguished themselves on the 18th: Captain Peel, who commanded the whole of the sailors employed, and is severely wounded; Messrs. Wood (severely wounded) and Daniel, who have been through the whole siege; Lieuts. Urmston and Dalyell, who are both severely wounded; and Mr. Parsons, mate, who is wounded; Lieuts. Cave and Kidd, both wounded, the latter mortally; and Mr. Kennedy, mate."

The attack of General Eyre's brigade on the Cemetery batteries, mentioned in the above dispatches, was a most brilliant, and (taken by itself) a completely successful exploit. It was a distinct operation from the attack on the Redan, and was effected by a brigade under Major-General Eyre, with the ultimate object of an attack on the Barrack batteries. The brigade consisted of the 9th Regiment, 18th Regiment, 28th Regiment, and 44th Regiment. Four volunteers from each company were selected to form an advanced party, under Major Fielden, of the 44th Regiment, to feel the way and cover the advance. The 18th Royal Irish followed as the storming regiment. The brigade was turned out at twelve o'clock, and proceeded to march down the road on the left of the Greenhill battery to the Cemetery, and halted under cover while the necessary dispositions were being made for the attack. General Eyre, addressing the 18th, said, "I hope, my men, that this morning you will do something that will make every cabin in Ireland ring again!" The reply was a loud cheer, which instantly drew on the men a shower of grape. The skirmishers advanced just as the general attack began, and, with some French on their left, rushed at the Cemetery, which was very feebly defended. They got possession of the place after a slight resistance, with small loss, and took some prisoners, but the moment the enemy retreated their batteries opened a heavy fire on the place from the left of the Redan and from the Barrack Battery. Four companies of the 18th at once rushed out of the Cemetery towards the town, and actually succeeded in getting possession of the suburb. Captain Hayman was gallantly leading on his company when he was shot through the knee. Captain Esmonde followed, and the men once established, prepared to defend the houses they occupied. As they drove the Russians out, they were pelted with large stones by the latter on their way up to the battery, which quite overhangs the suburb. The Russians could not depress their guns sufficiently to fire down on our men, but they directed a severe flanking fire on them from an angle of the Redan works. There was nothing for it but to keep up a vigorous fire from the houses, and to delude the enemy into the belief that the occupiers were more numerous than they were. Meantime the Russians did their utmost to blow down the houses with shell and shot, and fired grape incessantly, but the soldiers kept close, though they lost men occasionally, and they were most materially aided by the fire of the regiments in the Cemetery behind them, which was directed at the Russian embrasures; so that the enemy could not get out to fire down on the houses below. Some of the houses were comfortably furnished. One of them was as well fitted up as most English mansions, the rooms full of fine furniture, a piano in the drawing-room, and articles of luxury and taste not deficient. Our men unfortunately found that

the cellars were not empty, and that there was abundance of fine muscat wine from the south coast of the Crimea, and of the stronger wines, perfumed with roses and mixed with fruits which are grown in the interior, in the better sort of houses. Some of the officers, when they went away, carried off articles of clothing and papers as proofs of their entrance into the place, and some others took away pigeons and guineapigs, which were tame in the houses. The troops entered the place about four o'clock in the morning, and could not leave it till nine o'clock in the evening. The Russians blew up many of the houses and set fire to others, and when our men retired the flames were spreading along the street. The 18th Regiment lost 250 men. In the middle of the day Captain Esmonde wrote to General Eyre to say that he required support, that the men were short of ammunition, and that the rifles were clogged. The rifles, which were of the Enfield pattern, had been only served to the regiment the day before, and again it was found that these admirable weapons are open to the grave defect which has been so frequently mentioned, and that they are liable to become useless after firing twenty rounds. A sergeant volunteered to creep back with this letter, but, when he reached the place where the general ought to have been, he found that the latter had been obliged to withdraw, owing to his wound, and he therefore delivered the document to Col. Edwardes. As there was no possibility of getting support down to the troops, Col. Edwardes crept down along with the sergeant and got into the houses to see how matters were going on. The officer in command, on learning the state of the case, ordered the men to keep up the hottest fire they could; and meantime they picked up the rifles and ammunition of the killed and wounded, and were by that means enabled to continue their fusillade. The 9th Regiment succeeded in effecting a lodgment in the houses in two or three different places, and held their position as well as the 18th. A sergeant and a handful of men actually got possession of the little Wasp Battery, in which there were only twelve or fourteen Russian artillerymen. They fled at the approach of our men, but when the latter turned round they discovered they were quite unsupported; and the Russians, seeing that the poor fellows were left alone, came down on them and drove them out of the battery. An officer and half-a-dozen men of the same regiment got up close to a part of the Flagstaff Battery, and were advancing into it, when they, too, saw that they were by themselves, and as it was futile to attempt holding their ground, they retreated. About fifteen French soldiers on their left aided them, but as they were likewise unsupported, they had to retire. Another officer, with only twelve men, took one of the Russian life Pitts, bayonetted those they found in it, and held possession of it throughout the day. Meantime while these portions of the 5th and 18th and parties of the 44th and 28th were in the houses, the detachments of the same regiments and of the 35th kept up a hot fire from the Cemetery on the Russians in the battery and on the sharpshooters, all the time being exposed to a tremendous shower of bullets, grape, round shot and shell. The loss of the brigade, under such circumstances, could not be but extremely severe. One part of it, separated from the other, was exposed to a destructive fire in the houses, the upper portion of which crumbled into pieces or fell in under fire, and it was only by keeping in the lower story, which was vaulted and well built, that they were enabled to hold their own. The other parts of it, far advanced from our batteries, were almost unprotected, and were under constant *mitraille* and bombardment from guns which our batteries had failed to touch.

A graphic account of this affair and the proceedings of the English troops, during their brief occupation of the houses in the suburb, is given by a young Irish sergeant, in a letter to his "Cousin Kate," at Strabane:—

" You have heard about the action of the 18th; it was a most sanguinary one. On account of our staff situations, neither the paymaster, myself, nor the regimental clerks, were allowed to go into action with the regiment, so we were ordered to take charge of the camp along with two other sergeants; we volunteered to go with the regiment, but were told, if we dared to leave the

camp, we should be tried by a court-martial. During the day I suffered great anxiety 'about John, who was along with the regiment, and while the heavy firing was going on, I slyt out of camp and went down to the Picket-house Battery, so that, if anything unfortunately happened to my brother, I would be near at hand to tend to his wants, as on account of the Picket-house Battery being near the scene of action the wounded were brought under it. However, most fortunately, thank God, he did not require my services, as he returned to camp safe, after the action was over, after many narrow escapes. During the time I was at the battery an officer of the 38th regiment and I did all we could to relieve the sufferings of the poor wounded, in getting them conveyed to the General Hospital—getting them water, &c., for the day was very warm. My dear Kate, you can have no idea of the horrors of war; it was awful to look at these poor wounded fellows suffering under every description of wounds, through heads, necks, bodies, arms, and legs, some in the pangs of death, blaspheming, others raving, while others were praying, while the blood trickled from their wounds—such ghastly wounds. One poor fellow was severely wounded with grape. The officer asked him if it was grape that caused the wound? 'Yes, Sir,' he replied, 'it was d—— sour grape to me.' The most of them bore their sufferings very patiently. The 2nd brigade of the 3rd division, to which the 9th regiment belongs, were the only troops engaged on the left. Some of the men of the regiment told me that Johnny behaved most gallantly in leading on the men along with the officers when under fire in charging the Cemetery plain and gardens, where they were compelled to take shelter behind the houses there on account of their small numbers. They could neither advance or retire. They would have taken the Garden Batteries had the Round Tower on the right been taken by our troops there. I hear that the divisions on the right had taken the Round Tower twice, but were compelled to evacuate it in consequence of the Russian shipping raking the tower, and retired with heavy loss, and, had the troops on the left taken the Garden Batteries, they could not have held them, as the Round Tower completely covered them. During the time the brigade was charging through the Cemetery plain and gardens they were exposed to a most galling fire of grape, round shot, shell, and musketry, and even when under shelter of the houses the enemy never ceased firing at them, tumbling the houses and walls down; some of the regiments were in rifle-pits, and if one dared to show himself he was instantly struck down; they had to remain there until dark, when they returned to camp. The 9th regiment had three officers wounded (one has since died), eight privates killed, two sergeants, and forty-three privates wounded; each regiment in the brigade furnished one sergeant and thirty rank and file volunteers for the forlorn hope or advanced guard; these gallant fellows actually got into the houses of Sebastopol, which they plundered according to the custom of war. Enclosed is a perforated cardboard pattern for my dear Louisa, which was taken from a house at Sebastopol (in which Russian general lived) by one of the men of the regiment, who gave it to me; he told me that when he and some others broke into the house, after driving the Russians away, they found a woman and four children in it; as soon as they saw the English soldiers, they supplicated for mercy, but our gallant fellows were too generous to harm them, and made signs that they had nothing to fear from them, so they retired to a corner, where they remained till our men left the house. The man who gave me the cardboard came to camp laden with plunder. I shall enumerate the articles I saw with him—viz., a general's gold-laced hat, a guinea-pig, a valuable microscope, the cardboard, knives and forks, a most ingenious Russian toy, some plates, some bottles containing wine and rum, a pair of lady's satin slippers (the lady who wore them must have had a remarkably small foot). How he managed to carry them all surprised me. While in the house they destroyed beautiful pianos, ladies' and gentlemen's wardrobes, mirrors, &c.; but while there he said they did not neglect their duty; when they returned to camp their forage caps were gaily decorated with gold lace and satin ribands. The

brigade returned to camp at dark, and through some mismanagement of high authorities they were forced to relinquish the positions they had so gallantly taken after suffering severe losses, and behaving most creditably under a galling fire. Colonel Borton, commanding officer of the regiment, and who was foremost in the action, told the men when they assembled on parade next morning, that he never saw heavier firing (he having been through the Cabul and Sutlej campaigns in India), and felt proud of his regiment, and could place dependence on them, no matter where they went to. My comrade sergeant was sergeant to the 9th regiment, forlorn hope, and he gave me a fine description of what he saw. He and a number of men under his command were in one of the most advanced houses, within a few yards of another house occupied by Russian soldiers, and one of the Russians fired out of a window at our fellows, and after he fired he said (for he could speak English) 'Take that, you d—— English!' and one of the 9th, a wild young Irish fellow, immediately fired out of the window at him in return, saying, 'Take that, you d—— Russian.' This interchange of compliments continued for some time until the Russian was winged. Colonel Borton showed great bravery. When the regiment was going to advance he ran out in front and roared after, after casting his eye along the line, and waving his sword, 'Up, up, 9th! come along, my lads!' 'Yes, Sir,' they replied, 'we will follow you wherever you go!' Johnny told me this, for he was along with the colonel. The colonel is one of the most handsome men I ever saw. John also told me that he saw four men carrying a wounded officer on a stretcher to the rear, and they had to pass through all the heavy fire; for, as soon as the dastardly Russians saw the brave fellows employed on their charitable mission (for they left a comparatively secure cover for the purpose of having their wounded officer medically attended to), they poured all their fire on them; but God in His mercy protected them, as only one of them was wounded, although shot, shell, and grape ploughed the earth around them. When Colonel Borton saw them, he exclaimed, 'Ah, they are truly British soldiers!' What meaning is conveyed in that one sentence!—volumes expressed.'

The terrible fire—the storm of "iron hail," which the English troops had to encounter in rushing on to the attack of the Redan, is dwelt upon in all the accounts. The space to be passed over from our most advanced trenches to the Redan was somewhere about seven hundred yards, and from the first moment of their rushing over the parapet towards the point of attack our men were met by the same awful and annihilating storm of canister and grape. Many fell within the first dozen yards, and thence on to some broken ground about midway, in which the remainder sought cover, the field was strewn with the slain and wounded. Few of them ever reached the abattis in front of the work—none of them ever saw the deep ditch which protects its approaches. As the 34th Regiment advanced, the supports, by some means or another, got mixed together with them, and some confusion arose in consequence. On crossing the trench our men, instead of coming upon the open in a firm body, were broken into twos and threes. This arose from the want of a temporary step above the berm, which would have enabled the troops to cross the parapet with regularity; instead of which they had to scramble over it as well as they could; and as the top of the trench is of unequal height and form, their line was quite broken. The moment they came out from the trench the enemy began to direct on their whole front a deliberate and well-aimed *mitraille*, which increased the want of order and unsteadiness caused by the mode of their advance. Poor Colonel Yea saw the consequences too clearly. Having in vain tried to obviate the evil caused by the broken formation and confusion of his men, who were falling fast around him, he exclaimed "This will never do! Where's the bugler to call them back?" But, alas! at that critical moment no bugler was to be found. The gallant old soldier, by voice and gesture, tried to form and compose his men, but the thunder of the enemy's guns close at hand and the gloom of early dawn frustrated his efforts; and as he rushed along the troubled mass of troops which were herding together under the rush of grape, and endeav-

oured to get them into order for a rush at the batteries, which was better than standing still, or retreating in a panic, a charge of the deadly missile passed, and the noble soldier fell dead in advance of his men, struck at once in head and stomach by grape shot.

The Naval Brigade suffered severely. When the men retreated overwhelmed by the storm from the enemy's battery, several officers and men were left behind wounded, and endured fearful agonies for hours, without a cup of water or a cheering voice to comfort them. Lieut. Urmston lay for five hours under the abattis of the Redan, and was reported dead, but he watched his opportunity and got away with only a contusion of the knee. Mr. Kennedy, senior mate of the London, and of the Naval Brigade, was also left behind close to the abattis, and after several hours of painful concealment he rolled himself over and over like a ball down the declivity, and managed to get into the trench. Lieut. Kidd came in all safe, and was receiving the congratulations of a brother officer, when he saw a wounded soldier lying out in the open. He at once exclaimed—"We must go and save him!" and leaped over the parapet in order to do so. He had scarcely gone a yard when he was shot through the breast and died an hour after. Only three officers came out of action untouched. Lieut. Dalzell, of the Leander, was struck in the left arm by a grapeshot, and underwent amputation. Lieut. Cave and Mr. Wood, midshipmen, were also wounded. Capt. Peel, who commanded the detachment, was shot through the arm. Lord Raglan visited the wounded in hospital, and made inquiries about them. The Naval Brigade in action consisted of four parties of sixty men each. Fourteen men were killed and forty-seven men were wounded.

On the morning of the 19th, the day after the battle, the English demanded an armistice, but the Russians delayed granting it until the afternoon. The *Times* correspondent says: "It was agonising to see the wounded men who were lying there under a broiling sun parched with excruciating thirst, racked with fever, and agonised with pain—to behold them waving their caps faintly or making signals towards our lines, over which they could see the white flag waving, and not be able to help them. They lay where they fell, or had scrambled into the holes formed by shells; and there they had been for thirty hours—oh! how long and how dreadful in their weariness! An officer told me that one soldier who was close to the abattis when he saw a few men come out of an embrasure raised himself on his elbow, and fearing he should be unnoticed and passed by, raised his cap on a stick and waved it till he fell back exhausted. Again he rose, and managed to tear off his shirt, which he agitated in the air till his strength failed him. His face could be seen through a glass, and my friend said he never could forget the expression of resignation and despair with which the poor fellow at last abandoned his useless efforts, and folded his shirt under his head to await the mercy of heaven. Colonel Yea's body was found near the abattis on the right of the Redan; his boots and epaulettes were gone, but otherwise his clothing was untouched. His head was greatly swollen, and his features, and a fine manly face it had been, were nearly undistinguishable. Colonel Shadforth's remains were discovered in a similar state. The shattered frame of Sir John Campbell lay close up to the abattis. His sword and boots were taken, but the former is said to be in the Light Division Camp. It is likely he was carried away from the spot where he fell, up to the ditch of the abattis, for the facility of searching the body, as he could not have got so far in advance as the place where he lay. Already his remains were decomposing fast, and his face was much disfigured. Captain Ilume, his attached aide-de-camp, had the body removed, and this evening it was interred on Cathcart's-hill—his favorite resort, where everyone was sure of a kind word and a cheerful saying from the gallant brigadier. It was but the very evening before his death that I saw him standing within a few feet of his own grave. He had come to the ground in order to attend the funeral of Captain Vaughan, an officer in his own regiment (the 38th), who died of wounds received two days previously in the trenches, and

he laughingly invited one who was talking to him, to come and lunch with him next day at the clubhouse of Sebastopol."

There are still complaints of the want of the most necessary comforts, and appliances for the wounded. A military surgeon writes to the *Times*:—"At 3 a.m. on the 18th the assault commenced. We were all waiting for the wounded, who arrived as soon as they could travel the distance between the advanced works and the hospital. At 5 a.m. a ward was given over to me. It contained no patients, I was requested to see what was wanted for it. I found in it fourteen wretched shaky bedsteads, as many mattresses stuffed with chopped straw, the mattresses not sewn up at the sides, and sheets and blankets to correspond. This was all—not a single chamber utensil, not a cup, knife, fork or spoon—no large vessel for holding water—nothing but what I have named. I immediately applied for the various things deficient. Drinking-cups there were none; one chamber utensil I could have for the whole ward, and two bed-pans; nothing to hold water or tea—no plates. The wounded began to arrive; that ward was soon filled; others were given over to me in the same predicament. One orderly was given to attend on fourteen wounded men, not one of whom was able to move. Each ward was the same. The constant cry of the wounded was for water. We had nothing to give it them in. Old tin cases that had contained preserved meats were eagerly sought for, but out of these they could not drink, except by a most painful effort, as, of course, they had to be raised up in bed. I proceeded to dress the wounds; the orderly given me had never done that duty before, and when I asked him to give me lint strapping and gutta-percha, he did not know what those articles were. Every moment he was called away to give a drink to some wounded man. Well, during the whole of that day the wounded had nothing to eat, and not enough to drink. During the night of the 18th the wounded came crowding in; some of them were admitted by the orderlies, without having seen a medical officer, and, consequently not having been seen, their wounds were not dressed till morning. Yesterday the only food given to these poor creatures until 9 o'clock at night was hard biscuit and tea! There was no bread for them—no arrow-root, no beef-tea—nothing except tea without milk! I did not find this out until the bread had arrived, or certainly as long as any bread was to be bought my own men should have had some. We were occupied incessantly all yesterday and the day before in dressing and operating. As soon as one man was removed from the operating table another was put on." The same writer adds, on the 22nd:—"Since the above was written many of the things deficient have been supplied, but many are still wanting."

Lord Raglan and Dr. Hall, however, report favourably of the prompt treatment of the wounded after the action of the 18th, in the fixed hospital establishments. With regard to the health of the troops Dr. Hall, writing on the 26th June, says—"Cholera and bowel complaints still prevail, and have been on the increase within the last two or three days; but neither the admissions nor the deaths have been so marked as to attract special attention, though numerous enough to create uneasiness. Taking the whole force, the admissions to strength during the week have been in the ratio of 10·52 per cent, which is very high; but the deaths to strength are in the ratio of 0·68 per cent, which is more moderate; but it must be borne in mind that 1650 of the admissions during the week were from wounds alone. The Sardinian contingent has suffered much more than the British troops have done since the epidemic first made its appearance at the end of April. Great attention is paid to the cleanliness of the different camps; and on the first appearance of cholera the attention of medical officers was drawn by me in a circular memorandum dated 30th April, to the great importance of detecting and arresting the premonitory diarrhoea which generally precedes the more formidable stage of the disease."

The service has sustained great losses in the deaths of two distinguished officers; General Bucknall Estcourt, who had filled, during the campaign, the arduous post of Adjutant-General, and who was suddenly cut off by an attack of cholera; and Captain Lyons of the

Miranda, the second son of Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons. In his anxiety to reconnoitre Kaffa, he approached too near that port, and, while standing on the paddle-box of his ship, he received a rifle ball in the leg. Having unhappily neglected the wound, mortification ensued and caused his death.

A still heavier loss has been sustained in the death of the English Commander-in-chief. He had suffered for some time from diarrhoea, but his illness did not seem grave, and he was progressing favourably till the 28th of June, when alarming symptoms appeared, attended with difficulty of breathing, which gradually increased. From five o'clock in the afternoon he was unconscious, and from that period he gradually sank until nine at night, at which hour he died. "His death," said the despatch announcing it, "has plunged the whole army in the most profound grief."

The remains of Lord Raglan were conveyed to Kamiesch on the 3rd inst. with military honours, and placed on board the *Caradoc*, which immediately sailed for England. General Simpson, in a despatch, describes the funeral procession as being very imposing. He says in conclusion:—"Thus terminated the last honours that could be paid by his troops to their beloved commander. His loss to us here is inexpressible; and will, I am sure, be equally felt by his country at home. The sympathy of our Allies is universal and sincere. His name and memory are all that remain to animate us in the difficulties and dangers to which we may be called." General Pelissier, in an order of the day, paid a warm and generous tribute to the memory of his departed brother in arms.

The following despatch has been received from General Simpson, dated the 10th inst.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose the returns of casualties to the 8th inst. Your lordship will regret to see that the lists of killed and wounded are heavy; but the nearer we approach the defences of the place the greater number of casualties must be expected. Brevet-Major Harrison, 63rd Regiment, was killed on the evening of the 7th inst., whilst proceeding to the trenches; he was a most excellent officer, and is a serious loss to her Majesty's service. It will give your lordship sincere pleasure to mark the improvement in the general health of the troops. At 5 o'clock this morning a heavy fire was opened upon the Redan by the Allied batteries."

From the lists referred to it appears that, between the 6th and the 8th inst. inclusive, the casualties were: 1 officer, 10 rank and file, killed; 1 officer, 1 sergeant, 49 rank and file, wounded.

A despatch from General Simpson, dated the 14th inst., gives a list of casualties from the 9th to the 12th. They consist of 1 officer, 1 sergeant, 13 rank and file killed; 3 officers, 3 sergeants, 102 rank and file wounded. Captain Maunsell of the 39th Regiment was killed in the trenches on the 10th.

The *Mouiteur* contains the following despatch from General Pelissier, dated the 23rd inst.:—"The enemy appears to have taken alarm last night, and opened a very brisk fire on the right and left of our lines of attack. Our batteries replied as briskly, and with success. I have good news from Yenikale. Everything there is going on well, under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Osmont, who has taken measures to prevent any disorder at Kertch."

General Simpson, in a telegraphic despatch dated the 25th inst., says:—"Cholera has not increased since my last report, and the army continues in satisfactory health."

The mail from Constantinople of the 16th brings word that the Russian general appeared to have suddenly abandoned the siege of Kars, although he was in the vicinity with a force of 30,000 men. Letters from Trebisond state that Kars, if properly provisioned, might with its present garrison hold out till the winter.

A serious disturbance has taken place among the Bashi-bazouks in the pay of the English, and commanded by General Beatson. A corps of them, stationed at the town of the Dardanelles, broke into houses, violated women, assassinated people in the streets, and committed such horrible excesses of all kinds, that the inhabitants left the place and abandoned it to pillage. General Beatson having at length determined to punish these

bandits, and having arrested some of them, their comrades demanded their release. Upon the general's refusal to comply with their requisition, they left the town in a body, dispersed themselves in the open country, and threatened to return to burn the town and kill everybody they might find in it. Some squadrons sent in pursuit of the rebels failed to meet with them. The general has declared the town in a state of siege. The houses and shops are shut up. A Turkish division and two field-pieces have been asked for by the governor, in order to defend the Dardanelles against a possible attack by the Bashi-bazouks. The frigates *Euménide* and *Tisiphone* have approached the place, to afford aid in case of need. Such was the state of things on the 7th, the date of the latest news.

The *Moniteur de July 25* contains the following:—“After a brisk artillery fire the Russians made a sortie, about midnight, on the left of the Little Redan. As we are now quite close to them it took the enemy only an instant to reach our gabionnades. They were vigorously received by the Chasseurs-à-pied of the Imperial Guard, and by some companies of the 10th Regiment of infantry of the line. The Russians beat a hasty retreat, abandoning some wounded, and eight killed, between our ambuscades and the fosse of the place. A very dark night enabled them to carry off the others.”

The accounts from the *Baltic Fleet* in the Gulf of Finland mention several detached operations at different times. On the 23rd and 24th June the boats of the Harrier, under Captain Storey, destroyed forty-seven ships, varying from 700 to 200 tons each, in an anchorage near Nyfstad. The men were twenty-two hours on their oars. Captain Storey estimates that he destroyed 20,000 tons of shipping. On the 4th July Captain Yelverton, with the Arrogant, Magicienne, and Ruby, proceeded to Svartholm, and anchored close to the fort which the enemy had abandoned—withdrawing the guns and ammunition. Svartholm was in good condition, and a work of great strength, entirely commanding the approaches to Lovisa; it has important additions of late years, can mount 122 guns, and had accommodation in casemated barracks for about 1000 men, with governor's house and garden, and excellent officers' quarters. It was blown up. On the 5th, Captain Yelverton went up to Lovisa in the Ruby gun-boat, with the boats of the other ships. A strong de-

tachment of Cossacks showed themselves, but were dispersed by our fire. “On landing at Lovisa,” says Captain Yelverton, “I sent for the authorities, and explained the object of my visit; some demur was caused by our not having a flag of truce. I told them they had no right to such a guarantee, as the respect due to it had been so grossly violated at Hango. I then proceeded to the barracks and government stores within the town, which I destroyed, but did not set fire to them, as by so doing the whole town must have been burnt. This precaution was not destined to save Lovisa; for during the night an accidental fire occurred in a portion of the town where we had not been, and before morning the whole place was reduced to ashes.”—On the 6th July, Admiral Dundas caused a 32-pounder to be slung in a captured wood-boat, at an angle of 45 degrees. The shot fell into the sea at the distance of three miles. Moving the boat nearer to Cronstadt, he caused the gun to be fired again, and threw two shots into the island. A mortar-battery fired ineffectual shots in reply. On the 7th, the Merlin, with the French and English admirals on board, went within 2800 yards of the Risbanis batteries, the shot from which fell short.

In the *Black Sea* no operations of any magnitude have recently taken place.

A disastrous affair has taken place on the West Coast of Africa. A dispute having arisen with the king of Foulah arising out of the seizure by English ships of canoes carrying slaves, an expedition was sent from Sierra Leone in May last to enforce compliance with some demands made by the governor of that settlement. It consisted of her Majesty's ship Teazer, with 150 men under the orders of Mr. Dillett the governor's secretary. On arriving at Malaghea, after some ineffectual attempt to open a communication by a flag of truce, the ship fired upon the town, a considerable part of which was destroyed. Next day a detachment of troops was sent on shore. Their advanced guard, commanded by Lieutenant Vincent, entered the town, when a murderous fire was opened upon them. The troops were driven back, and with difficulty effected their return to the ship, with the loss of Lieutenant Wylie and several men killed, and a number of officers and men wounded. A number more are supposed to have been drowned or to have fallen into the hands of the enemy.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE last month's list of new books appears even more brief than the war has accustomed us to. Two volumes of *Lives of the Queens of England of the House of Hanover*, by Doctor Doran; two volumes of a history, by Arthur Helps, of the *Spanish Conquest in America*, written for the special purpose of describing the relation of that conquest to the history of slavery, and to the government of colonies; two volumes of a curious and striking *Personal Narrative of a Pilgrimage to Medinah and Mecca*, by Lieut. Burton, of the East India Company's service, the third Englishman who has succeeded during two centuries in penetrating as far as the shrine of the Prophet; the first volume of an elaborate treatise, by Mr. H. D. Macleod, of *The Theory and Practice of Banking*; a new volume of *Chaucer* in Mr. Bell's annotated edition of the poets; a volume, by the Rev. Thos. Milner, on the ancient and modern history of *The Crimea*; two important volumes of biblical criticism by a distinguished Hebrew scholar, M. Kalisch, commencing an *Historical and Critical Commentary on the Old Testament*, accompanied by a new translation, and containing the book of Exodus; an ingenious little book of home travels, by Mr. Walter White, called *A Londoner's Walk to the Land's End and a Trip to the Scilly Isles*; a translation from the German of Bismarck, by Lieut. Col. Ludlow Beamish, of a treatise on the *Uses and Application of Cavalry in War*, with examples from ancient and modern history; a book of travels by Captain Chamier, in three volumes, which calls *An Unsentimental Journey through France*,

Switzerland, and Italy; two volumes about Kensington, partly reproduced from ‘Household Words’ and entitled the *Old Court Suburb*, by Mr. Leigh Hunt; a small volume of Doctor Mann on the *Philosophy of Reproduction*; two volumes on the *Dead Sea*, by Captain Allen of the navy, indicating a new route to India; a small collection of original *Letters of John Howard*, printed by Mr. Field from the originals in the family of Mr. Whitbread, the friend to whom they were addressed; a fifth edition, with considerable additions, of Sir George Ballingall's *Outlines of Military Surgery*; a volume descriptive of a tour in the North of Italy, by Mr. Street, copiously illustrated, and having special reference to architectural remains, called *Brick and Marble in the Middle Ages*; and a new poem, by the poet laureate, entitled *Maud*;—these form all the books published during the past month which it falls within our purpose to describe. There has been, besides, the usual amount of serial publications, and some novels. Of the latter we may mention *Display* by Mrs. Maberly, *Philip Courtenay* by Lord William Lennox, the *Curse of the Village* and the *Happiness of Being Rich* translated from Hendrik Conscience; and of the former, a new Quarterly, called the *National Review*. Two books among the importations from America may also justify mention,—the first an elaborate *History of Napoleon Bonaparte*, written in a spirit of violent dislike to England; and the second, a rather curious account of *Female Life among the Mormons*, being a narrative of the many years experience of a wife of a Mormon Elder.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 21st inst., £10,644,152.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stand., per oz.	£3 17 9	Silver bars, stan. per oz.	5 12
Do., dust,	3 16 0	Mexican dollars,	4 11 5

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0·28 prem.	New York	0·67 disct.
Hamburg	0 par.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 4 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	91 1/2	90 1/2	91 1/2
Three per Cent. Reduced	92 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
New Three per Cents	92 1/2	91 1/2	92 1/2
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4	4	4 1/2
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	215	210 1/2	214
Exchequer Bills, March.	27	14	19
India Bonds	37	30	31

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	102 1/2	100	102	271,736
11·6·3	Blackwall	73	72	72	30,563
100	Caledonian	66 1/2	62 1/2	63 1/2	259,669
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	58 1/2	57 1/2	58	962,682
20	Eastern Counties	12 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	496,153
100	Gt. Sn. & Wn. (Irel.)	104 1/2	99	103	138,834
100	Great Northern	93 1/2	91 1/2	90 1/2	435,930
100	Great Western	67 1/2	65 1/2	66 1/2	558,236
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	449,839
100	London & N. Westn.	101 1/2	99 1/2	98 1/2	1,220,785
100	London & S. Westn.	89	84 1/2	86 1/2	309,446
100	Midland	73 1/2	70 1/2	70	578,223
100	South-East. & Dover	61 1/2	60 1/2	60 1/2	345,242

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.

RAILWAYS.

Belgian 4 per cent., 23·4	East Belgian Junct., 22 dis.
Brazilian 5 per cent., 101 1/2	Great W. of Canada 22 2/3
Chilian 6 per cent., 104	Great Luxembourg, 25
Danish 5 per cent., 100·3	Northern of France, 36
Dutch 2 1/2 per cent., 64·6	Norwegian Trunk Pref., 8·9
Dutch 4 p. cent., 96 1/2	Paris and Orleans, 48
Mexican 3 per cent., 21 1/2	Paris and Lyons, 48
Peruvian 3 per cent., 56	Paris and Rouen, 47·49
Portuguese 4 per cent., 44·6	Rouen and Havre, 27
Russian 5 per cent., 101	West Flanders, 4
Spanish 3 per cent., 37	West of France, 103
Sardinian 5 per cent., 86 1/2	

MINES.

Linares	7 1/2	Quartz Rock	3 1/4
Nouveau Monde	1 1/2	St. John Del Rey	29

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.

BANKS.

Australian	1 1/2	Australasian	87
Colonial Gold	8 1/2	Eng. Scott. and Aust. 17 1/2	
Great Nugget	8 1/2	Lond. Chart. of Aust. 20	
Port Philip	4 1/2	South Australian	38 1/2
South Australian....	8 1/2	Union of Australia ..	79 1/2

RAILWAYS.

STEAM COMPANIES.

Bombay and Baroda 20	Australasian Pacific ..	7 1/2
East Indian	Australian Royal Mail 74	
Do., Extension 22 1/2	Eastern Steam. Navig.	
Indian Peninsula.. 54	General Scowr St. Ship 17 1/2	
Madras	Pen. & Orient. St. Nav. 64	

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural.. 20	North Brit. Australian 3 1/2
Van Diemen's Land... 13 1/2	Peele River Land
South Australian Land 28·30	Scottish Austr. Invest. 12·2

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
June 23	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
— 30	76 7	34 3	29 3	45 9	47 1	43 1
July 7	76 1	34 5	28 6	44 6	46 4	40 9
— 14	75 11	34 7	28 8	44 8	45 11	42 4

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

			L. s. t.	L. s. t.
Malt, Pale,	per qr.	65 to 72	Hay....	per load 4 to 5 10
Malting Barley	"	32—33	Clover..	6 0—7 0
Oats, best.	"	26—29	Straw..	1 4—1 13
Wheat, White,	"	76—84	Linseed cake, per ton, 10l. 10s.	to 12l. 0s.; Rape cake, ditto, 7l.; Bones, ditto, 4l. 10s.
Flour—			Hops—Kents, 210s. to 320s. For.	
Town made, per sack.			Sussex, 189s. to 330s. For.	
Country household			120s. to 140s.	
American, per barrel.			Poultry—Capons, 3s.—4s. ;	
Indian Corn, per qr.			Fowls, 4s. old.—7s. ; Chickens, 4s. old.—6s. old.; Ducks, 4s.—6s.; Geese, 3s. 6d.—6s.; Turkeys, 6s. 6d.—6s.; Pigeons, 4d.—9d.	
CATTLE—	s. d. s. d.		Hides, &c.—Market, 96 lb., 45d.—55d.; do, 50 lb., 31d.—32d.; do, Cal-skins, 10 lb., 6s. 6d.; Horses, 6s. 6d.; Rough Tail, 22s.	
Beasts, per st. 4	2 to 5		METALS.	
Calves ..	4	1—5	Metals.	
Sheep ..	4	4—5	Copper, Cakes, per ton, 126s.	
Pigs ..	3	4—4	Iron, Pigs, 4l. 15s. to 5l. 0s.	
Wool, per lb.—			Rails, 7l. 5s. Lead, English	
South Downs. 1 0 1/2—1 2			Pig, 22l. Steel, Swedish Keg,	
Kentish fleece 1 0 1/2—1 1 1/2			15s. to 15l. Tin, English	
German Prima 1 0 2—1 0 3			Block, 117l.; Bamea, 119l.; Spelter, 22l.; Quicksilver, per lb. 1s. 10d.	
Australian 1 0 2—1 0 2			PROVISIONS.	
Cape..... 0 6—1 10			BACON, per ewt.—Irish, 62s. to 75s.; American, 48s. to 54s.	
Spanish	1 1—2 9		BEEF—Mid. to prime, p. 8lb., 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; Irish India, 16s.; Hambo', 170s.; American, 140s. to 160s.	
			BUTTER—Dorset, per ewt., 96s. to 166s.; Irish, 82s. 98s. 12s. Dutch, 84s. to 102s.	
			CHEESE—Cheshire, per ewt., 60s. to 76s.; Wiltshire, 54s. to 74s.; Dutch, 56s.	
			HAMS—York, 70s. to 75s.; Irish, 70s. to 75s.; Westphalia, 66s. to 68s.	
			MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per 8 lb., 4s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.	
			POTATOES, per ton, Scotch reds, 8s. to 105s.; Edif. Regts. 100s. to 130s.	
			PORK, per 8 lb., 3s. 4d. to 4s. 2d.	
			VEAL, 4s. 2d. to 5s. 2d.	
			LAMB, 4s. 8d. to 6s. 0d.	

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
To May 31	27,584	9,103	47,320	926	84,943
June	10,716	1,596	4,910	242	17,464
Total to June 30	38,300	10,699	52,240	1,168	102,407

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£35 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £22	£2 10d to £3 10
Sydney	40—65	22—35	18—25	2 5—2 10
Adelaide	36—64	22—35	15—20	2 5—2 10
Hobart Tn.	36—65	22—32	15—20	2 5—2 10

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH JULY TO THE 27TH AUGUST.

PRICE 2d.
(STAMPED 3d.)

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Tuesday, July 31, Lord BROUGHAM drew attention to the *Withdrawal of the Grant of 1000l. a-year to the Royal Society*. He contended there never had been in the history of this country anything like the amount of good produced by the expenditure of so small a sum as in this instance, for the judicious application of this moderate grant to the Royal Society had resulted in the greatest benefits to science and art.—Earl GRANVILLE said that the state of the case of the Royal Society was this. In 1850 the society applied for a grant, which was given, but out of a fund particularly applicable to charitable purposes. This year the president wrote for a renewal of the grant, but the reply of the Lords of the Treasury was to the effect that, having received the application of the society, their lordships were not aware that there had been any understanding that they should have an annual grant from the public funds; but he might say that the application would meet with serious and most favourable consideration from government.

On Friday, August 3, the Earl of CLARENDON, in moving the second reading of the *Turkish Loan Bill*, answered at some length the objections which had been brought against the plan adopted by the French and English governments. The noble earl stated that the Turkish government had acted in the most open and straightforward manner, and expressed the greatest confidence in its being able to meet all its engagements. With respect to the doubts which had been cast upon the honour and good faith of the French government, he felt almost ashamed even to allude to them. Such arrangements had been made that it was impossible that so unlikely a contingency could arise.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH entered into an elaborate review of the whole policy of the war, especially with respect to the position of the German powers and the Principalities, and, in conclusion, severely criticised the operations in the East.—Lord PANMURE defended the course pursued by government from the criticisms of Lord Ellenborough, and after some observations from the Earl of Hardwick, which were answered by Earl Granville, the bill was read a second time.

On Monday, August 6, the *Sale of Beer Bill* was read a second time, the standing orders having been suspended.

In committee on the *Turkish Loan Bill*, Lord ST. LEONARDS said, that before making a loan of this kind to the Turkish government it would be necessary to satisfy themselves that the war was a just and necessary one on the part of this country, and that the government had not the opportunity to make a safe and honourable peace without continuing the war. After entering into the question of the recent negotiations, he said he did not understand how any person who had advocated the war at its commencement should be found to argue in favour of its conclusion at the present juncture. He had certain objections to the form in which this assistance had been rendered to Turkey, and without having the least doubt of the good faith of the French government, he should have preferred a direct subsidy administered under the control of her Majesty's government, equipping and maintaining the Turkish army in a state of efficiency.—The Earl of CLARENDON complimented Lord St. Leonards on the good spirit in which his remarks had been made. He had expressed his

opinion that a subsidy to Turkey would have been the better course to have adopted, and he (Lord Clarendon) was far from thinking that a subsidy might not have been an effective mode of proceeding. He was also far from saying that if the war lasted long, government might not be compelled to resort to that system which had become so repugnant to the people of this country. But it was neither the bill nor the convention, but the bonds which would be issued, which would give to the creditor the real security and the power to enforce the payment of the guarantee. Those bonds would recite the English and French laws which gave effect to the guarantee, and would strictly define the responsibility of the two governments.—After a few remarks from the LORD CHANCELLOR as to the legal effect to be given to the French words "*conjointement*" and "*solidairement*," the bill passed through committee.

On Tuesday, August 7, Lord STANLEY of Alderley moved that the *Limited Liability Bill* having been introduced and passed by the House of Commons, in conformity with a unanimous resolution of that house, although its progress had been delayed by the lengthened discussions on the conduct of the war, which prevented its being sent up to this house at an earlier period, yet as great inconvenience was being experienced from the suspension of many undertakings of great importance, in the anticipation of parliament legislating on the subject, the circumstances rendered legislation on the subject of such urgency as to make its immediate consideration necessary. He then directed attention to the various steps that had been taken with reference to this measure in the other house of parliament, and to the fact that it had gone through that house without any opposition, except of a very slight and insignificant nature.—Lord REDESDALE considered that no case of urgency had been made out by Lord Stanley which would justify the house in agreeing to the second reading of this bill at the present time. He never knew an instance where a bill was proceeded with at so late a period of the session, when a difference of opinion amongst leading members of the house induced them to ask for a postponement of it.—Lord LYTTELTON would vote against the resolution, although he strongly approved of the principle of the measure; but he had been told that the details were much wanting in those guards and securities that were necessary.—Earl GRANVILLE did not think that any objection would have been made to the course which the government proposed to take that night. When his noble friend proposed the order of the house last year, the then prime minister pointed out the inconvenience that would arise from adopting arbitrarily a rule of this kind. After commenting on the absence of the powerful members of the opposition, who he said had had ample time to come to town if they intended to oppose the measure, Lord Granville observed that if their lordships wished for a discussion of the bill, there could be an adjourned debate on the second reading, and a full consideration of its provisions in committee. He could only say that if they desired to have a delay of a few days, to enable them to have that discussion, there would be no objection on the part of the government.—Earl GREY was greatly astonished when he heard that government had given notice of their intention to propose the motion which had been moved that evening.

The adoption of the resolution had led to an improvement in the mode of transacting business. He was unable to express his opinion decidedly on the effect which the proposed alteration would have, but he was inclined to favour the principle of the measure. It was clear that the bill had received a very imperfect and a most hasty consideration in the other house of parliament. The bill would greatly effect the commercial honour of the country. The government might think to redeem the character of the session and prove that it had not been altogether an abortive one, but by the course they were pursuing they would lose more than they would gain.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE said that if the house adopted the course recommended by Lord Grey they would do more to weaken the influence of that house in the country than anything they had done these many years. If ever there was a bill that called for immediate and urgent consideration, it was this; and he implored their lordships to sit to September, if it were necessary, but not to throw aside this important question on any pedantic formality.—Lord ST. LEONARDS said that should the resolution moved be carried, and should the bill be read a second time, he should propose that a week or ten days be given, in order that those who were not in attendance might be in their places to discuss the measure in committee. The law of the country, as it at present stood, was not opposed to the principle of limited liability, for any person or company in their dealings might in their contracts limit the amount of their liabilities. The persons possessing this privilege were compelled, and wisely so, to submit to numerous regulations to provide proper safeguards, but none were provided by this bill, nor was the slightest security afforded by it against the formation and establishment of bubble companies of the worst possible description. Government might carry the bill, but they would not obtain for it the deliberate sanction of that house.—The LORD CHANCELLOR said that nothing was required by the resolution before their lordships than that which was provided for in the standing order itself, which allowed bills of urgency to pass. He believed that their lordships would strike a very dangerous blow at the constitution of the country, if, by any stringent resolutions, they refused to discuss measures of legislative importance.—Lord MONTEAGLE thought that it would be in every respect better if they were to repeal altogether the standing order, rather than suspend it upon an occasion like the present. The present bill had occupied the House of Commons from May to August, and their lordships were now called upon within a few days of the close of the session to pass a measure which it had been considered necessary to discuss at such length in another place. While under discussion in the House of Commons, the bill had been three times revised and reprinted; and he therefore called upon the house not to consent to consider so important a measure under circumstances which would totally preclude them from giving to it that calm consideration which it imperatively required.—The house then divided, when there appeared, on the motion for suspending the standing order—contents, 38; non-contents, 14: majority for the motion, 24. The standing order was then ordered to be dispensed with.—Lord STANLEY of Alderley thereupon moved the second reading of the bill. In doing so he stated that in the opinion of Her Majesty's government the time had come when it was absolutely necessary that some measure of this kind should pass, and called the attention of their lordships to circumstances which had convinced him of the absolute necessity of an alteration in the law with respect to the grant of the privilege of limited liability. He was convinced the house would best consult the interests of the country if they did in this matter what they had done in the country, namely, unfetter all the existing restrictions on the investment of capital, and leave it to each individual to do with his money what he thought would best conduce to his own interests. He trusted their lordships would read the bill a second time, believing it was one which was loudly called for by the times in which we lived.—Earl GREY said his leanings were in favour of this bill; but he objected simply to their discussing at this time, and in the present state of the house, a great change in our commercial law, to

which there was no opportunity at present of giving anything like due care and deliberation.—Lord REDESDALE said he was rather favourable to the principle of the bill than otherwise, but he thought the measure had not received in the other house of parliament that due deliberation which it deserved, but very much the reverse.—After some observations from Lord Wynford and Lord Denman, the bill was read a second time.

The *Sale of Beer Bill* passed through committee, and the *Turkish Loan Bill* was read a third time and passed.

On Thursday, August 9, the house went into committee on the *Limited Liability Bill*, when several amendments of Earl Grey and Lord St. Leonards, requiring that 10,000*l.* should be the minimum capital, in shares of not less than 2*l.* each, and providing a reserve fund of 20 per cent. as security for the creditors, were negatived.—An amendment of Earl Grey's, fixing the number of shareholders at not less than 25, and another of the Lord Chancellor's, requiring the solvency of the company to be ascertained and 20 per cent. paid up, were agreed to.—Earl GREY proposed a new clause, making the directors liable for the debts of the company in the case of their making a dividend after the company was insolvent.—Lord STANLEY objected to the clause, which, however, was ultimately agreed to.—Earl GREY then proposed another clause, providing that no note or obligation given by a shareholder should be considered as a payment on account of his share, and that no loan should be made by the company to any shareholder.—This clause was also agreed to.—Earl Grey then proposed a clause prohibiting any company from incurring debts beyond the amount of its capital, and making the directors personally responsible for any excess.—This clause was withdrawn.—Another clause, moved by Earl Grey, rendering directors liable to penalties for publishing false balance-sheets was postponed till the report.—Clauses 8 and 9 were agreed to.—On clause 10, Lord MONTEAGLE carried a proviso that if three-fourths of the share capital should be lost, the company should wind up its affairs.—The remaining clauses were agreed to.—Earl GREY declared that the measure was still crude and undigested, and that it would remain for many years a standing memento of the impolicy of pressing a measure forward at such a late period of the session.

On Friday, August 10, on bringing up the report of the *Limited Liability Bill*, the provisions underwent another discussion.—Lord CAMPBELL urged upon the government the propriety of re-considering their decision on the previous night, and that they would fix a minimum of capital in the bill.—Earl GRANVILLE declined to agree to this suggestion.—Earl GREY reiterated his former suggestion that an independent audit should be established for all these companies.—After considerable discussion, Earl GRANVILLE promised to consider the question; and if it was thought desirable, he would insert a provision to that effect on the third reading.—The report was then received.

On Saturday, August 11, on the motion for the third reading of the *Limited Liability Bill*, Lord LYTTELTON entered a protest against its passing.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that although he had been uniformly in favour of the bill, and it was improved by the alterations that had been made in its progress through that house, yet he did not share in the very sanguine expectations that were entertained, with regard at least to its immediate operation; but he had not the least doubt that the ultimate effect of it would be beneficial. It was in his own knowledge that many useful undertakings of the most urgent nature, to some of which he would have been a subscriber himself, had been kept in a state of suspended animation from the want of a bill of this kind, and that at a time when there existed a necessity for carrying into action all the capital and resources of the country. Lord REDESDALE said that his opposition throughout was not directed to the principle of the bill, but he desired to improve it and render it a working measure.—After a few words from Lord CAMPBELL in favour of the bill, and from Lord MONTEAGLE who warned all classes against entering into reckless speculations under its operation, Earl GRANVILLE said he very much doubted if the bill would be improved had

they had a longer time to consider it, for all the amendments proposed were restrictions on the principle of the bill, and he thought that the bill would go forth with greater chance of success if these amendments had not been introduced. People might be foolish enough to be deceived by groundless expectations, but the principle of the bill was on one hand to limit the expenditure, while in the nature of things it was likely to limit the profits. They had no right to consider that in passing this bill they had discovered anything new. Under the common law any two persons under a special contract could limit their liability, and all they proposed was that a general measure should supersede the necessity for special contracts.—*LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY* obtained the insertion of a clause, giving the Board of Trade powers to appoint an auditor to investigate the accounts of any company obtaining limited liability under the bill.—On the motion of the *LORD CHANCELLOR*, a clause was also added, applying the provisions of the winding-up amendment act to companies, &c., receiving certificates of limited liability.—The bill was then passed.

On Tuesday, August 14, after some routine business, *Parliament was Prorogued by Commission*. The royal commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, Lord Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Stanley of Alderley, and the Earl of Harrowby; and having taken their seats on the woolsack, and the commons having been summoned to the bar, the Lord Chancellor read the royal speech as follows:

"**MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN:** We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in parliament, and at the same time to express the warm acknowledgments of her Majesty for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during a long and laborious session. Her Majesty has seen with great satisfaction that while you have occupied yourselves in providing means for the vigorous prosecution of the war, you have given your attention to many measures of great public utility. Her Majesty is convinced that you will share her satisfaction at finding that the progress of events has tended to cement more firmly that union which has so happily been established between her government and that of our ally the Emperor of the French; and her Majesty trusts that an alliance founded on a sense of the general interests of Europe, and consolidated by good faith, will long survive the events which have given rise to, and will contribute to the permanent well-being and prosperity of the two great nations whom it has linked together in bonds of honourable friendship. The accession of the King of Sardinia to the treaty between her Majesty, the Emperor of the French, and the Sultan, has given additional importance and strength to that alliance; and the efficient force which his Sardinian Majesty has sent to the seat of war to co-operate with the allied armies will not fail to maintain the high reputation by which the army of Sardinia has ever been distinguished. Her Majesty has commanded us to thank you for having enabled her to avail herself, as far as has been found to be required, of those patriotic offers of extended service which she has received from the militia of the united kingdom, and for the means of reinforcing her brave army in the Crimea by the enlistment of volunteers from abroad. Her Majesty acknowledges with satisfaction the measure which you have adopted for giving effect to the convention by which, in conjunction with her ally the Emperor of the French, she has made arrangements for assisting the Sultan to provide the means which are necessary to enable him to maintain in efficiency the Turkish army, which has so gallantly resisted the assaults of its enemies. Her Majesty, in giving her assent to the bill which you presented to her for the local management of the metropolis, trusts that the arrangements provided by that measure will lead to many improvements conducive to the convenience and health of this great city. The abolition of the duty on newspapers will tend to diffuse useful information among the poorer classes of her Majesty's subjects. The principle of limited liability which you have judiciously applied to joint-stock associations will afford additional facilities for the

employment of capital; and the improvements which you have made in the laws which regulate friendly societies will encourage habits of industry and thrift among the labouring classes of the community. Her Majesty trusts that the measures to which she has given her assent for improving the constitutions of New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania, and for bestowing on the important and flourishing colonies of Australia extended powers of self-government, will assist the development of their great national resources, and promote the contentment and happiness of their inhabitants. Her Majesty commands us to say that she has been deeply gratified by the zeal for the success of her Majesty's arms, and the sympathy for all her soldiers and sailors manifested throughout her Indian and colonial empire; and her Majesty acknowledges with great satisfaction the generous contributions which her subjects in India and the legislatures and inhabitants of the colonies have sent for the relief of the sufferers by the casualties of war.

"**GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:** Her Majesty commands us to convey to you her cordial thanks for the readiness and zeal with which you have provided the necessary supplies for carrying on the war in which her Majesty is engaged. Her Majesty laments the burdens and sacrifices which it has become necessary to impose upon her faithful people; but she acknowledges the wisdom with which you have alleviated the weight of those burdens by the mixed arrangements which you have made for providing those supplies.

"**MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN:** Her Majesty has commanded us to say that she has seen with sincere regret that the endeavours which, in conjunction with her ally the Emperor of the French, she made at the recent conferences at Vienna to bring the war to a conclusion, on conditions consonant with the honour of the allies, and with the future security of Europe, have proved ineffectual; but those endeavours having failed, no other course is left to her Majesty than to prosecute the war with all possible vigour; and her Majesty, relying upon the support of parliament, upon the manly spirit and patriotism of her people, upon the never-failing courage of her army and her navy, whose patience under suffering and whose power of endurance her Majesty has witnessed with admiration, upon the steadfast fidelity of her allies, and, above all, upon the justice of her cause, humbly puts her trust in the Almighty disposer of events for such an issue of the great contest in which she is engaged as may secure to Europe the blessings of a firm and lasting peace. On your return to your several counties you will have duties to perform little less important than those which belong to your attendance in parliament. Her Majesty trusts that your powerful influence will be exerted for the welfare and happiness of her people, the promotion of which is the object of her Majesty's constant care, and the anxious desire of her heart."

The *LORD CHANCELLOR* then declared the parliament stood prorogued to Tuesday, the 23rd of October.

In the *HOUSE OF COMMONS*, on Monday, July 30, the house went into committee on the *Limited Liability Bill*.—*MR. WILLIAMS* moved that the amount of capital required for shares should be as low as five pounds.—*MR. BOUVERIE*, who, in the previous sitting had moved that the shares should be ten pounds, now hoped that the committee would agree to a compromise, and fill up the blank with ten pounds, twenty per cent. to be paid up.—After some discussion, the suggestion of *Mr. Bouverie* was agreed to.—*MR. CAIRNS* proposed that any company of not less than six members, associated under deed of settlement for any purpose (except banking or insurance), and having its capital stock divided into shares as aforesaid, may obtain from the registrar of joint-stock companies a certificate of limited liability.—*MR. BOUVERIE* opposed the amendment, and after some discussion the committee divided—for *Mr. Cairns*' amendment, 27; against it, 39; majority against the amendment, 12.—*MR. CAIRNS* then proposed to omit that part of the clause which provided that not less than twenty per cent. of the nominal amount of the shares

should be paid up.—Mr. BOUVERIE said the object of the provision was to adopt a test which would prevent the formation of bubble companies.—Mr. CARDWELL regretted that the Vice-President of the Board of Trade felt bound to oppose the amendment. The real question raised by it was the security given to the public by the system of registration; and he was of opinion that the registration gave sufficient security to the public.—The amendment was withdrawn.—Mr. GURNEY then moved that the amount of shares to be paid up should be fifty instead of twenty per cent., which was negatived without a division.—The other clauses having been agreed to, on clause 7, Mr. CARDWELL said that the question which had suggested itself to his mind was what remedy any creditor was to have against any shareholder in a company, and what was the practical value of the register under the act. He begged, therefore, to propose the omission of the clause, and the substitution of the following:—“When a company has obtained a certificate of limited liability, every person having held a share in such company shall be liable to pay the debts of the company to an amount equal to, but not exceeding, the nominal value of the greatest number of shares held by him at any one time within one year of the date of the judgment or decree against the company.”—Mr. John Macgregor, Mr. Lowe, Mr. A. Hastic, Mr. Bouvierie, and Mr. Malins opposed the amendment, which was supported by Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Cairns.—Lord PALMERSTON said he should certainly oppose the proposal, as tending very materially to prevent the bill from having any practical effect. It was one of those arrangements which would have the effect of driving persons with small capital from investing their money in such companies. He was persuaded that these companies would in general be composed of honest and prudent men, well able to look after their own concerns; and, on the other hand, that it would be the duty of those who dealt with them to look after the concerns, and not to give credit beyond a reasonable amount.—The committee divided—for the original clause, 78; for the amendment, 15: majority against the amendment, 63.

On Tuesday, July 31, Mr. F. SCULLY called attention to the unsatisfactory state of the regulations regarding the *Transmission of Newspapers to the British Colonies*, the effect of which, he said, was very considerably to increase the expense of English newspapers to subscribers in Canada, Australia, and generally in the colonies.—Mr. WILSON admitted that the recent regulations were not working very satisfactorily, and the post-office authorities were now engaged in revising them, with a view to improvement.

The house went into a committee of supply. After various miscellaneous votes, one of 10,000*l.* for the *Discovery of the North-West Passage*, 5,000*l.* to Captain McClure, and the other 5,000*l.* to the other officers and crew of the *Investigator*, was voted amid general approbation.

Sir C. Wood then moved a vote of 800*l.* for a *Monument to Sir John Franklin and his Crew*. It was proposed to erect the monument at Greenwich hospital. The vote was agreed to.

Sir C. Wood then proposed the *Supplemental Estimates for the Navy*. One item was for hemp, which was now supplied, he was glad to say, from Italy, and was of superior quality. They had also an offer from Hungary. Another item was for stores; but the principal item was for the building of gun-boats. When the war began we had not a single gunboat. Sir J. Graham built six, which had been very useful in the Sea of Azoff. Other vessels of a smaller size had also been built, and had been of great use. Still the number was very inadequate. About six or eight more had been built or bought. He proposed to double that number, and they with their machinery would cost about half a million.—On the vote being proposed, Mr. FRENCH brought again under the notice of the house the plans of Lord DUNDONALD, to the practicability of which he said Sir C. NAPIER had pledged his professional reputation.—Sir G. PECHELL said he believed the plan would be more dangerous to those who used it than to the enemy.—Captain SCOBELL urged the construction of rafts with guns mounted on them, such as were used with such success in the Black

Sea, and one hundred of which would not cost more than a single gunboat.—Mr. LINDSAY was glad to hear that the Admiralty had at last determined to build gunboats, and hoped they would hear no more of such large line-of-battle ships as the Marlborough.—Admiral BERKELEY defended the large ships, which were necessary, he said, if for no other purpose, to protect the gunboats and floating batteries.—The vote was then agreed to, as were the other votes in that department.

Sir C. Wood then proposed a vote of a million-and-a-half sterling for the *Transport Service*. They had conveyed to the Crimea the Sardinian contingent; and they had acceded to a proposal made in the most generous manner by the French Emperor, who said, “We as a great military nation are ready to furnish troops, if you, a great naval nation, will furnish the ships to convey them.” They had moved a large number of them accordingly, though the French had done much that way themselves. Then they had moved about 11,000 Turkish troops. He reminded the house that it was quite necessary for the good of the service to keep a large number of transports at the seat of war. They had moved altogether, since the beginning of the war, 246,000 men and 32,000 horses. He stated that, with a view to economise the transport service, he had determined to send an admiral to Balaklava, who should have the whole transports there under his single control.—Mr. H. BROWN recommended the government to adopt the French system with regard to transports, which was to give the vessels for service, instead of for time, and to give the captains a premium for making the voyage within a given time.—The vote was agreed to, as was the vote for the packet service.

The house then resumed, and the *Turkish Loan Bill* was read a third time and passed amid general cheers.

The report on the *Limited Liability Bill* was received without comment, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time on Wednesday.

On the motion for going into committee on the *Sale of Beer Bill*, the Marquis of BLANDFORD complained of the haste with which it was hurried through, and remarked that the evidence taken before the committee was not complete. He thought some further inquiry was necessary, and moved that the house resolve itself into committee that day three months.—After some discussion the amendment was negatived, and the motion for going into committee carried by 62 to 10. The bill then went through the committee.

On Wednesday, August 1, Mr. FERGUSON moved that the house should go into committee on the *Carlisle Cananries Bill*.—Mr. R. PHILLIMORE, alleging as a ground the advanced period of the session, moved that the house should go into committee that day three months.—Lord JOHN MANNERS supported the amendment.—Mr. Frewen, the Marquis of Blandford, and Mr. Cowper, observing that it was doubtful whether the machinery of the bill would effect the object proposed, suggested the withdrawal of the bill.—Mr. FITZROY moved the adjournment of the debate; but lost his motion by 36 to 21.—Mr. Phillimore's amendment was also negatived, and the house went into committee; but the chairman, on the motion of Sir J. Ferguson, instantly reported progress.

The house resumed the consideration of the clauses of the *Union of Contiguous Benefices Bill*.—On clause 2, the Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the omission of all reference to the church building commission.—Mr. HENLEY opposed and Sir JOHN PAKINGTON supported the amendment; but before the question could be decided, Mr. PELLATT moved that the chairman should report progress. This was negatived by 62 to 12; and the amendment carried without a division.—On clause 10, Mr. HENLEY complained that the clause would not prevent the sale of graveyards, while it legalised the sale of the sites of the churches.—In deference to the generally expressed feeling of the house, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON agreed to insert words to prevent the sale of graveyards, and the sale of churches in which interments have taken place, permitting the sale in cases where there have been no interments.—On the motion of the Marquis of BLANDFORD a clause was inserted after clause 1, authorising her Majesty to appoint

parish commissioners, with power to purchase and hold lands and hereditaments for the purposes of the act.—The bill, as amended, was reported.

On Thursday, August 2, in a committee of supply, a vote of £3,711*l.* was passed for the *Statute Law Commission*, and subsequently a resolution moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, granting a credit vote of three millions for the *General Purposes of the War*, was agreed to.—The supplemental vote for *Commissionariat Services* was then brought forward by Mr. F. PEEL, who explained the causes which had led to this large expansion in this item of expenditure. Among these causes he mentioned the heavy charges incurred on account of the provisions and supplies furnished to the Sardinian and Turkish contingents. The result had been to occasion a gross outlay on the year, as now estimated, of £8,700,000*l.*, of which £2,500,000*l.* remained to be voted. The discussion of the grant for this department of service occupied the committee during the greater part of the early sitting.

The *Sale of Beer Bill* and the *Militia Ballots Suspension Bill* were severally read a third time and passed.

The house afterwards went into committee, and resumed the discussion on supply. Mr. MONSELL, in moving the votes for the *Ordnance Establishment*, as organised upon the new system, explained the principles on which the recent changes in the department had been framed. Two objects, he observed, had been chiefly kept in view—centralisation and responsibility. To secure the former result the artillery and engineer corps were placed under the control of the Horse Guards. All plans for fortification and other military constructions were to be submitted to the Commander-in-Chief, the Inspector of Fortifications, and the Director-General of Artillery. The general departments of the Ordnance were to be placed under the Secretary of State for War. On the question of responsibility he stated that the chief of each department would be held strictly responsible for its working, and would consequently possess the corresponding privilege of appointing clerks and other employees in their respective offices. Important results would, he believed, attend the adoption of the new system.—The successive votes set forth in the estimate for this and other branches of expenditure were then agreed to, after a miscellaneous discussion, which lasted for several hours.

The vote of £5,000*l.* for the erection of a temporary building at Kensington Gore as a *Museum of Art and Science*, was opposed by Mr. SPOONER, on the ground that it pledged the house to a vast consequent expenditure for edifices of which no plans were yet prepared.—Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, and Lord Palmerston argued the expediency of providing some place where the large collections of artistic and scientific productions already in the possession of the country could be exhibited.—On a division the vote was carried by a majority of 85 to 33.

The second reading of the *Charitable Trusts Bill* was moved by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, who proposed to reserve the formal discussion until some future stage of the measure.—Mr. KNIGHT objected to this summary mode of procedure with respect to so important a measure.—After some remarks from Sir G. Grey, Mr. Disraeli, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Malins, and other members, the motion was agreed to, and the bill read a second time.

The house having gone into *Committee of Ways and Means*, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a series of resolutions, authorising the treasury to raise £7,000,000*l.* in Exchequer Bills or Bonds, and proceeded to explain the causes which rendered this additional provision of financial resources necessary. In April last he had estimated the revenue of the year at £6,339,000*l.*, including 16 millions to be raised by loan, and three millions of Exchequer Bills, and reckoning also £200,000*l.* as the anticipated receipt from the proposed stamp on banker's cheques which he had subsequently found it expedient to abandon. The estimated expenditure at that time was £1,899,000*l.*, leaving a computed margin of £4,210,000*l.* These computations had been verified by the result, so far as the revenue was concerned, but the outlay on the various branches of

military service had swelled far beyond the original estimate. The several increments had been already stated and explained but he briefly recapitulated their amounts, stating that upon the army, commissariat, and militia the expenditure had augmented from £6,221,000*l.* to £8,739,000*l.*; on the navy and transport service from £8,653,000*l.* to 19,378,000*l.*; and on the ordnance from £8,893,000*l.* to 8,644,000*l.* This gross charge for military departments, which had been reckoned in April at £13,677,000*l.* must now be estimated at £49,812,000*l.*; and the actual cost for the four months of the financial year already passed had been almost precisely in that proportion—namely, £16,512,000*l.* The net result would be to overrun the original margin of surface by nearly two millions. To fill up this chasm he asked the house to enlarge the power of issuing Exchequer Bills from three to seven millions, with an added proviso empowering the treasury to raise some part of that sum by Exchequer Bonds. This supply he computed would leave a surplus in the Exchequer of something over two millions, but of that excess a considerable portion had been already absorbed. The right hon. gentleman stated in conclusion that the outstanding amount of the unfunded debt was now £17,099,400*l.* of Exchequer Bills, and six millions of Exchequer Bonds, and he argued that although the total might appear large, it had been much exceeded at several periods both during and since the last war.—Mr. GLADSTONE, without opposing the resolution remonstrated against the system of resorting to loans for the supply of war expenditure without attempting to raise any augmentation of revenue from taxation.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave some explanation, and after a few remarks from Mr. DISRAELI and Mr. GLYN, the resolutions were successively put and agreed to.

The *Limited Liability Bill* was read a third time and passed, after a miscellaneous discussion.

On the order of the day for the second reading of the *Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Bill*, Mr. BOWYER objected to its proceeding any further. He observed that the very title of the bill was offensive to the feelings of Irishmen.—After a discussion the house divided, and there appeared—for the second reading, 42; against it, 19; majority, 23.

On Friday August 3, Mr. LAING called attention to the *Recent Conferences at Vienna*, and moved for copies of the correspondence which had subsequently taken place. He knew that almost all the great bankers and various other mercantile firms in Europe were of opinion that the proposals submitted by Count Buol were such as might have been accepted without any disparagement of national honour.—Sir George GREY said her Majesty's government would not be justified in laying the papers before the public without first obtaining the concurrence of the French government. The right hon. baronet then contended that the government were justified in insisting upon the limitation of the naval power of Russia in the Black Sea, as that appeared to be the most effectual means which could be adopted by the Western powers with a view to securing the independence of Turkey, and at the same time insuring the peace of Europe. (The right hon. baronet then read extracts from Lord Clarendon's instructions to Lord J. Russell, for the purpose of showing what were the views and intentions of her Majesty's government.) The house would recollect that the government had been blamed in not having broken up the conferences when it became obvious that Russia declined to submit to terms which limited her aggressive policy, but her Majesty's ministers were unwilling to break off the negotiations so long as there appeared to be any hope of bringing about an honourable peace. The French government had taken the same view. But even assuming that the proposition had been accepted by the governments of England and France, and rejected by Russia, there was no certainty that Austria would place itself side by side with the Western powers. Had the government accepted the proposition it would have been necessary to keep up a fleet in the Black Sea, without the prospect of even securing a safe, permanent and honourable peace. But, independent of these considerations, it should be borne in mind that her Majesty's government would not be justified in acceding to the Austrian

proposal without the concurrence of France. Any disagreement upon that point might endanger the alliance of France, a matter more entitled to consideration than the prosecution of the war, as to the satisfactory issue of which he did not despair.—Mr. GLADSTONE admitted that the production of the papers was entirely in the discretion of the government, and he thought that the hon. member would act unwisely if he pressed his motion. He considered, however, that the right hon. baronet had not justified the government in the continuance of a war which cost the allies so much blood and treasure. He was at a loss to know upon what principle her Majesty's ministers continued the prosecution of the war. It was not to the French government but to her Majesty's ministers that the responsibility attached, for, according to a statement in the *Moniteur*, the Emperor had rejected the Austrian proposals, being anxious to maintain the alliance with England, the government of which had already declined to make peace on the basis of that proposition. It was said that there was no assurance of the assistance of Austria, but Austria had said should Russia decline the proposal, then we will draw the sword. How was Russian aggression to be effectually resisted? He insisted that the prolongation of the war, so far from securing the independence of Turkey would only tend to weaken her power by exhausting her internal resources. He entreated the house not to place too much reliance upon the presumed exhaustion of Russian resources. The right hon. gentleman, in conclusion, said that he and his friends, as ministers, had counselled this war, and must expect to be met by sneers and taunts whenever they attempted to give utterance to their changed opinions. But the objects of the war, as detailed in the four points having been obtained, he saw no reason why the war should not cease.—Mr. LAYARD insisted that nothing short of the limitation of the naval power of Russia in the Black Sea would secure the independence of Turkey. He condemned the occupation of the Danubian provinces whether by Russia or by Austria, as from their importance they were entitled to be treated as independent powers.—Mr. CORDEN, after expressing his entire concurrence in the views of Mr. Gladstone, charged the newly appointed secretary for the colonies (Sir W. Molesworth) with advocating the war, in contradiction to the opinions he expressed at a public meeting held at Leeds, some time back.—Sir W. MOLESWORTH defended his conduct upon the ground that when he made the speech referred to he was ignorant of the full extent of the designs of Russia. He considered that the motion before the house was brought forward by a nefarious combination of parties, for the purpose of embarrassing the government.—Sir J. GRAHAM denied that either his hon. friend (Mr. Gladstone) or himself was aware of the motion until the notice of motion appeared on the paper.—A warm discussion followed, in which Mr. PHILLIMORE, Mr. Walpole, and Mr. Gladstone complained of the language used by a minister of the crown in reference to hon. members of that house.—Lord PALMERSTON said that his right hon. friend in his advocacy of the war was sustained by the expressed opinion of the whole country.—Mr. DISRAELI said that the noble lord had not extricated his colleague from the indiscretion of applying the term of nefarious combination of parties to hon. members in that house.—Mr. BROTHERTON moved the adjournment of the house, and Mr. Laing not having pressed for a division, his motion consequently dropped.

On Monday, August 6, on the order for the third reading of the *Criminal Justice Bill*, Mr. T. CHAMBERS moved to defer the third reading for three months. The bill, he said, was intended to effect a most important alteration in our criminal tribunals, and he denied the validity of the reasons assigned for the change; he denied that the bill would obviate the delay and expense now complained of, while it was, in his opinion, open to objections upon other grounds. The bill was unfair to prosecutors as well as the accused; it was objectionable likewise upon social grounds, for, by casting the onus of duties upon magistrates, it tended to widen the breach between classes.—The amendment was seconded by Mr. KENNEDY.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL believed that,

so far from the change proposed by the bill being mischievous, it would be eminently beneficial. It would prevent the expense of taking witnesses to quarter sessions, it would shorten the period of imprisonment before trial, and diminish the risk of contamination in gaol. He believed that the bill would be of the greatest benefit to the criminal, the magistrate, and the country.—After some remarks by Mr. Barrow and Mr. Daines in support of the bill, and by Mr. McMAHON against it, the amendment was negatived, and the debate on the third reading was adjourned.

In the evening, Lord J. RUSSELL gave a short explanation respecting the *Grant to the Royal Society*, and Lord PALMERSTON said, he proposed to issue the sum this year out of the civil contingencies, and to make this grant the subject of special consideration hereafter.

On the order for going into committee upon the *Charitable Trusts Bill*, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained the objects of the bill (which had come down from the House of Lords)—namely, to enlarge the powers of the commissioners, to increase the number of inspectors, and to improve the machinery of the bill of 1853. He proposed, he said, to alter the bill by raising the limit of charities to be placed under the commissioners from 10*l.* to 30*l.* a-year.—Mr. KNIGHT moved to defer the committee for three months, urging that the bill gave the commissioners enormous and unlimited powers, changing them from an inspecting and remedial to an administrative board, and that, before such tremendous changes were made, that house ought to have had an opportunity of considering the measure more fully and deliberately than the present period of the session permitted.—This amendment was seconded by Sir W. JOLLIFFE.—Mr. MICHELL supported the bill, and wished the commissioners to be armed with still larger powers.—Mr. PELLATT spoke in favour of the amendment.—Sir G. GREY defended the bill, the principle of which, he said, was not questioned, and, as to the additional powers and administrative functions proposed to be given to the commissioners, they were found to be indispensable. These additional powers, however, were matters of detail.—Mr. CAIRNS insisted upon the arbitrary authority given to the commissioners by this bill. He advised the government to withdraw it, and bring in another bill next year, at an earlier period of the session, and to send it to a select committee.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL replied to Mr. Cairns, whose special objections, he observed, applied to details which might be discussed in committee. Mr. Knight, he thought, must have been deceived when he alarmed the house about the hydras and chimeras in the bill, which were mere phantoms of imagination. The provisions contained in the bills introduced by Lord Lyndhurst in 1844, 1845, and 1846 went much beyond those in the present measure, the additional powers given by which were supplementary to those in the act of 1853; they had been shown by experience to be absolutely requisite, and to deny them would be to negative the principle of that act.—Mr. HENLEY differed from the solicitor-general as to this bill being supplementary to the act of 1853; so far from it, he said, this bill introduced a wholly new machinery, to various parts of which he objected, and he thought more time should have been given for the consideration of so great a change. This bill set up for the first time a peculiar judicial tribunal for charity questions, and if this was to be a secret concave it would not escape suspicion.—Lord GALWAY recommended that the bill should stand over till next session.—Sir W. HEATHCOTE and Mr. MALINS suggested that that portion of the bill which conferred administrative or judicial functions upon the commissioners should be withdrawn.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, he should greatly regret the loss of that portion; but, if the house was resolved upon the point, he must be content with what he could get.—After some further discussion the amendment was negatived, and the house went into committee upon the bill, the clauses of which had not been gone through when the chairman was ordered to report progress.

On Tuesday, August 7th, Lord JOHN RUSSELL spoke at great length on the *Prospects of the War and the Position of the Country*. He referred to the subject of

our finance, and said he did not think that even in the war with France greater responsibility was involved. If they looked to the prospects of the war, they perceived that the navy was indeed in an efficient state; but as Russia did not intend to meet us on the sea, it was evident that little could be expected from a great blow struck in the Baltic. With regard to the Black Sea, it could not be concealed that the Asiatic frontier of Turkey was in great danger. He had hoped that a foreign legion would have been raised before this time, which might have been sent there, but that hope had been disappointed. There was, however, a large force in the Crimea, but that force would be met by a large Russian army, increased by troops sent from the Austrian frontier. He thought these matters called for grave reflection. He would say nothing of the plans proposed for the next campaign, for he thought that too much publicity had already been given to these subjects. With respect to the prospects of peace, he said that personally he could wish all his despatches from Vienna were given fully to the public, that his conduct might be clearly appreciated. He might state that the Turkish ambassador, who knew well the interests of his country, was perfectly satisfied with the terms offered at Vienna. He did not know whether a decision had been arrived at at Constantinople similar to that which was decided on at Paris and London. If it had not—if the war was now carried on, not for the integrity of Turkey, but to maintain the naval and military reputation of the western powers—the character of the war would be completely changed, and instead of lending money to Turkey in future, we must in future grant her direct subsidies. He expressed full confidence, not only in the loyalty, but in the discretion of the French Emperor as our ally; but upon the whole question he must say that there never was a house of commons which placed more confidence in a government than this house did in the present government. He would now advert to the Italian portion of the question. Part of the money involved in this bill was for transporting the Piedmontese troops to the seat of war. He thought the conduct of the King of Sardinia, as an ally, was beyond all praise. But of course the Sardinian government expected to obtain the moral support of this country for an object they had much at heart, to see a better state of things prevail in Italy. They perceived that in the Papal States great oppressions were going on, while outside the towns there was an organised system of brigandage. In the Two Sicilies some of the best men were still suffering in the Neapolitan dungeons, and though their sufferings had been most powerfully exposed by Mr. Gladstone, he could not learn that any improvement had taken place. In Tuscany, the old mild system had been exchanged for an inquisitorial system, which was a disgrace to a civilised government. What aggravated the matter was, that these evils were taking place, not so much from domestic misgovernment, but that one part of the states of the church was occupied by an Austrian army, while Rome itself was occupied by a French army. In former cases the occupation was, but temporary, but in the present case the French occupation of Rome had continued for five years, and there was no symptom whatever of its coming to an end. On the contrary, it was admitted everywhere that if the French and Austrian troops were withdrawn, the authority of the Pope would be denied, and a government more consistent with justice would be established. This was a great disturbance of the balance of power in Europe, which the influence of the British government ought to be exerted to put an end to. Was it not possible that the French, Austrian, and English governments might be able to devise some beneficial system of government in those states? Had the war terminated, he could not doubt that this would have been one of the first matters to which the King of Sardinia would have called the attention of our government. Unhappily, we had no present prospect of peace, and therefore he called the attention of the government to the question now. He was quite sure that his noble friend would be most glad to embrace any opportunity that would enable him to effect that object. He could not see that there ought to be

much difficulty in the matter. He had no doubt the Emperor of the French would be most happy to concert some such measure with our government. He admitted that this was an old subject of complaint. From the days of Petrarch to Filicaja—from the days of Filicaja to the present day—the complaint of all the great men of Italy had been the domination of the foreigner. But though the evil was old, it need not be perpetual, and he hoped to live to see the day when the English government, checking the wild spirit of Mazzini and his followers, and encouraging constitutional and moderate principles, would help forward the growth of industry, peace, and civilisation.—Mr. WILKINSON thought the present was not a very opportune moment for introducing the subject. It seemed of a piece with the speech of Mr. Gladstone the other night, who called up all the powers of his eloquence and ingenuity to exaggerate the resources of Russia, and to deprecate those of Great Britain and her allies. He contended that the only course left for the allies now was to prosecute the war vigorously, as the only means of obtaining peace.—Lord PALMERSTON did not complain of the course taken by Lord J. Russell. He had taken a prominent part in these questions when in office, and now that he was out of office he had more leisure to turn his attention to them. He quite admitted the responsibility pressing upon the government. No man ought to have engaged in the war without first having satisfied his mind that the cause was just, and the sacrifices to be made by the country were for an adequate object. It must indeed be a grave reason which could induce a man who was a party to the commencement, and, up to a recent period, to the prosecution of the war, now to change his opinion, to represent the war as unjust and unnecessary, and to anticipate disaster and ruin. He did not apply these remarks to his noble friend, to whom he would only say that the government were prepared to take the responsibility of their position. He was satisfied with the generous spirit of that house, and he was sure the views they had heard from a few members had found no echo out of doors. It could not be expected that the government should enter into any explanations upon the subjects touched upon by his noble friend. But he might state with regard to one of those points, that he had no reason to believe the Turkish government differed at all in their view of the Austrian proposals from those of England and France. If at any future time they should come to a different conclusion from the western powers, that would be matter for grave deliberation; but he could not conceal from the house that England and France had at least fully as great an interest in this matter as Turkey herself. But up to the present moment, and he hoped it was likely to continue, there was perfect unanimity of opinion between the governments of England and France. He cordially concurred in Lord John's eulogy of the cordiality existing between the governments of France and England, which might, in fact, be considered as one cabinet. He adverted to the delay in the formation of the foreign legion, delays which were now being rapidly overcome, and he hoped before the autumn passed he would be able to send a reinforcement of them to the Crimea. He then adverted to the state of Italy. After eulogising the constitutional conduct of the king and the people of Sardinia, he referred to the contrast presented in the Roman states and the kingdom of Naples. Foreign influence in all states was fatal to their well-being. Foreign influence obtained by arms was still worse; and, in Italy, unluckily, both were in full sway. It was vain to deny that Naples was under the influence of Russia, showing the manner in which an enemy obtained influence over countries whose territories were far separated from her. But the house must see that these were difficult and delicate topics to handle, and that nothing could be less desirable than that there should be discussions in this house or communications from the government tending to throw a shade of coldness over our relations with either of those governments. With regard to the occupation of foreign troops, the French garrison of Rome had been reduced, the Austrian troops were withdrawn from Tuscany, and they had not been increased in other parts of Italy. With regard to Austria, he might state

that all allegations as if she were changing her policy towards the allies were unfounded. Whether she ever took the field with her allies or not, of one thing he was certain, that she would never take the field against them. He deplored the state of Italy sincerely, and if the removal of foreign troops would establish good government, he would say, let the troops go to-morrow. But, unfortunately, the road from bad to good government was not always smooth and easy; great preparations and much caution were required. After referring to the efforts that were made some time ago for administrative reform in the papal states, backed by all the continental powers, he stated that the French and English cabinets were united in the wish to improve the condition of that country, and to facilitate its amelioration and independence.—Mr. HENLEY said he could not see why the subject was introduced at all. It seemed only to be intended as the introduction of another apple of discord, embarrassing the government at a time when they had enough on their hands to carry on the war. He thought that war might have been prevented, but now that we were in the war, he could not say that he had yet seen any fair or honourable prospect of getting out of it. He saw no prospect of peace from the Vienna conferences; the perusal of the papers had given him the impression that none of the parties went there to make peace, and he believed there was nothing for this country now but to fight it out.

At the evening sitting, Mr. STAFFORD moved for papers respecting the *Sanitary State of the Army and Navy in the East*. He justified the disclosures which had been made of the unnecessary sufferings of the army, without which, he said, their sufferings would have been still worse. He quoted extracts from the evidence of several staff and regimental surgeons, to show the frightful evils which existed in the army about Christmas last. He quoted, also, the suggestions they made for an improvement of the system, and asked the government whether they had adopted those suggestions.—Mr. PEEL, in reply to the statements of Mr. Stafford, entered into some detail with regard to the state of the hospitals in the Crimea, and first he stated that an impartial commission had been appointed to inquire into the condition of the hospitals on the 18th of June. At present there were few sick or wounded either in the military or civil hospitals, and the reason was that there was little sickness in the army. They had, however, made great provision for emergencies, and he hoped they would always continue to be beforehand with these contingencies. He hoped and believed Sebastopol would fall this summer; but the government did not trust too much to that, but had made provision for the army to winter again in the Crimea. With respect to the military medical department, he stated that it was intended to appoint a head over every separate department, such as the purveyor's branch, the apothecary's, &c.; and that over all a military medical chief should be placed. With regard to the motion, he had no objection to give the ordinary medical reports asked for. The motion, amended in some of its points, was then acceded to.

The house having gone into a committee of finance, Mr. V. SMITH proceeded to recapitulate a multitude of facts and figures, tending to explain the *Financial Condition of our Indian Empire* at the opening of the present year. The ultimate result of the revenue returns from the several provinces showed a gross income of 26,551,239*l.*, leaving a surplus of 421,227*l.* beyond the expenditure. This excess, he admitted, was less by 200,000*l.* than the estimate formed a twelvemonth since by his predecessor at the Board of Control; but he showed that this diminution arose chiefly from the augmentation of outlay, and not from a falling off in the receipts. In the current year he was obliged to calculate upon a gross deficiency of at least three millions in the income as compared with the expenditure, and confessed that no adequate means had been suggested for filling up the chasm. For the future, he nevertheless considered that the prospects of the country were improving, much of the recent outlay having been devoted to railroads and other public works, whose development, both from public and private enterprise, promised here-

after to enhance in a most material degree the prosperity and resources of India. Mr. V. Smith then adverted to various topics connected with the social condition of the natives, and the administrative system of the government of the Eastern empire, and pointed out many features and incidents which, as he believed, testified to a continuous and considerable improvement in the well-being of the subjects and the efficiency of the official organisation of the East India Company.—Mr. BRIGHT analysed the recent operation which had taken place with regard to the Indian debt, contending that the reduction of interest, followed so speedily by the issue of a new loan, was altogether collusive and indefensible. The Indian government, he believed, had practically deceived the public and defrauded its creditors. After pursuing at much length his comments upon the financial position of the Indian government, Mr. Bright concluded by moving as an amendment a resolution setting forth that in the opinion of the house, with a view to bring the state of the finances of India more clearly before parliament, it is desirable that the Board of Control for the Affairs of India should consider the practicability of making up the annual accounts of the revenues of India on the 30th of October instead of on the 30th of April, and of laying before parliament, during the month of March in each year, a complete statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Indian treasury during the preceding, with an estimate of the anticipated receipts and expenditure for the current year.—Sir J. W. HOGG, referring to the statement that torture had been employed in India as an instrument for the collection of the revenue, vindicated the civil servants of the company from complicity in that crime. He could not deny the existence of the practice altogether, but declared that it was unknown among the class of European employés, and was diligently suppressed and punished when discovered by the superior functionaries in the service.—The discussion, which subsequently related almost entirely to the question of torture as an element of the Indian system of finance, was somewhat warmly continued by Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE, Mr. OTWAY, Mr. HENLEY, Sir C. WOOD, Mr. WHITESIDE, and Mr. R. MANGLES.—Mr. D. SEYMOUR briefly defended the administration of the East India Company in its financial department.—After some remarks from Mr. V. SCULLY, the original resolutions, which were of a formal character, were put and agreed to unanimously, Mr. Bright's amendment, with a slight modification, being embodied in the series.

The consideration in committee of the *Charitable Trusts Bill* was then resumed, and the remaining clauses disposed of, all the provisions conferring judicial powers on the commissioners being successively surrendered.

On Wednesday, Aug. 8, the *Burials Bill* was read a third time after some discussion upon an additional clause proposed by Lord EBBINGTON, which was carried to a division, but negatived by a majority of 29 to 26—3. The bill then passed.

The *Criminal Justice Bill* was also read a third time and passed, several amendments and additional clauses having been successively proposed and negatived amidst a miscellaneous conversation.

The *Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Act Continuance Bill* was passed through committee, Mr. HORSMAN agreeing to fix July 1 instead of August 31, as the date when the act should expire.

The *Charitable Trusts Bill* was reported with the amendments made in committee, and ordered to stand for a third reading this day.

On the order of the day for going into committee on the *Despatch of Business (Court of Chancery) Bill*, Mr. HADFIELD objected to proceed with the measure at a time when no opportunity could be found for its proper discussion. He moved as an amendment that the committee be deferred for three months. On a division there appeared 35 votes against this amendment and none for it. The house accordingly went into committee on the bill, but the chairman was immediately ordered to report progress, the hour for adjournment having arrived.

On Thursday, Aug. 9, the house having gone into committee on the *Leases and Sales of Settled Estates*

Bill, considerable discussion took place upon a new clause which had been introduced for the special purpose of preventing the inclosure of Hampstead-heath by Sir T. M. Wilson, the proprietor of the soil. The clause was resisted on the ground that it was undignified for the legislature to aim its measures against a single individual. After considerable debate, the opponents of the clause persisting in their antagonism, the Solicitor-General withdrew the bill altogether.

Mr. WILSON, in answer to a question from Mr. Thorneley, said that some of the existing arrangements respecting the *Conveyance of Newspapers by Post* having been found inconvenient, the Treasury, at the request of the Postmaster-General, had consented to allow unstamped journals to pass free to the colonies and foreign countries with the addition of a single postage label. No change, he added, was to be made in the regulations respecting the inland conveyance of newspapers.

Captain SCOBELL moved for a select committee to inquire into the *Government of the Navy*. Some discussion took place, but was stopped by the house being counted out.

On Saturday, August 11, the *Limited Liabilities Bill* was brought down from the Lords with amendments. The amendments were agreed to and the bill passed.

On Tuesday, August 14, while the house awaited Black Rod to summon them to hear the Queen's Speech, Sir DE LACY EVANS spoke at some length on the conduct of the war, with a view of eliciting from Lord Palmerston a declaration that the government are determined to prosecute the war with vigour during the recess. He said he was old enough to recollect that at the close of the last war we had 80,000 British troops, and 40,000 Portuguese troops commanded by British officers, on the coast of Spain; besides which, we assisted the Spanish government, maintained troops in the Mediterranean, and made war in Canada. Comparing these numbers with those in the Crimea, it will be seen, he contended, that there is a great falling off in energy in the conduct of the war. The government must desire to reinforce the army in the Crimea; but they have not taken means, by augmenting the bounty and affording other facilities, to raise recruits. He pointed out that there are 320,000 men in India, 40,000 of whom are British soldiers; seven seasoned battalions at the Cape, two in Ceylon—in fact, ten battalions of seasoned soldiers who might be made available for service in the Crimea, by sending Native Indian Irregular Cavalry to the Cape, and Sepoys to the Mauritius, Ceylon, and Hongkong. It would be easy to increase the Native forces in India, and have 20,000 British soldiers ready for service in the Crimea in three months. He further expressed his satisfaction at the state and numbers of the Foreign Legion and the Turkish Contingent; and suggested that a brigade of 5000 men should be drawn from the Irish constabulary. With regard to a Polish Legion—that is a matter of delicacy. But all Poland is not Austrian; and if it is desired to show deference to Austria, let there be a special provision that no subjects of the Gallician provinces shall be enrolled, but only Russian Poles. We ought to take an opportunity of showing how small is the minority which concurs in gloomy views, and statements like those made by the noble lord who distinguished or rather extinguished himself at Vienna.—Lord PALMERSTON said that nobody was more entitled than Sir De Lacy Evans to express his opinions on the conduct of the war; and the suggestions just made should receive the deepest consideration. When Sir D. Lacy heard the Queen's speech, he would find that the views entertained by her Majesty were in accordance with those previously expressed by the government. It is true that a larger army was in the field at the close of the last war than is now in the Crimea; but if the first year of the Peninsular war be taken, it will be found that the efforts we are now making are greater than those made by the British government at the commencement of that war. Lord Palmerston was interrupted by the arrival of the message from the Lords, and he concluded by repeating his assurance that Sir De Lacy's suggestions should receive full consideration.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords—Monday, July 30th.—Royal Assent to a number of bills. Nuisances Bill committed. Coal Mines Inspection Bill read a third time and passed. Militia Officers Qualification Bill read a third time and passed.

31st.—Metropolis Management Bill reported. Lords' amendment to Speaker Bill read a second time.

Thursday, August 2nd.—Dissenters Marriages Bill rejected. Public Offices Extension Bill read a second time. Excise Duties Bill read a second time. Turkish Loan Bill read a third time. Sale of Beer Bill read a first time.

3rd.—Office of Speaker Bill read a third time and passed. Metropolitan Buildings Bill read a second time. Custom Laws Consolidation Bill read a second time. Passenger Act Amendment Bill read a second time. Turkish Loan Bill read a second time.

6th.—Sale of Beer Bill read a second time. Metropolis Local Management Bill read a third time and passed. Excise Duties Bill read a third time and passed. Turkish Loan Bill reported. Ordnance Board Bill read a third time.

7th.—Limited Liability Bill read a second time. Sale of Beer Bill committed. Customs Tariff Acts Amendment and Consolidation Bill read a third time and passed. Customs Laws Consolidation Bill read a third time and passed. Turkish Loan Bill read a third time and passed. Ordnance Board Bill read a third time and passed. Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Advances Bill read a second time. Appropriation Bill read first time.

9th.—Public-houses (Ireland) Bill read a second time. Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Acts Consolidation Bill read a third time and passed. Public Health Act (1854) Continuance Bill read a second time. Disease Prevention Bill read a second time. Limited Liability Bill committed. Appropriation Bill read a second time. Exchequer Bills (7,000,000^l) Bill read a second time.

10th.—Public Health (No. 2) Bill read a second time. Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Advances Bill read a third time and passed. Appropriation Bill committed. Public-houses (Ireland) Bill committed. Public Health Act (1851) Continuance Bill committed. Exchequer Bills (7,000,000^l) Bill committed. Limited Liability Bill reported.

11th.—Limited Liability Bill read a third time and passed.

13th.—Appropriation Bill read a third time and passed. 14th.—Royal Assent to seventy-six public and private bills, including the Turkish Loan Bill, Religious Worship Bill, Sale of Beer, &c. Bill, Metropolis Local Management Bill, Charitable Trusts Bill, Limited Liability Bill, Despatch of Business (Court of Chancery) Bill, Criminal Justice Bill, and Union of Contingent Benefices Bill. Prorogation of Parliament to the 23rd October.

House of Commons—Monday, July 30th.—Sale of Beer Bill read a second time. Limited Liability Bill reported. Partnership Amendment Bill withdrawn. Metropolitan Buildings Bill read a third time and passed.

31st.—Committee of Supply, Supplemental Estimates. Turkish Loan Bill read a third time and passed. Fisheries Bill reported. Sale of Beer Bill in committee.

Wednesday, August 1st.—Carlisle Canaries Bill in committee. Union of Contingent Benefices Bill reported.

2nd.—Committee of Supply, Supplemental Estimates. Ways and Means, Chancellor of Exchequer's resolution. Sale of Beer Bill read a third time and passed. Limited Liability Bill read a third time and passed. Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Bill read a second time. Dwellings for Labouring Classes Bill reported.

3rd.—Public Health Bill committed. Exchequer Bills Bill read a first time. Appropriation Bill read a first time. Fisheries Bill read a third time and passed.

4th.—Appropriation Bill read a second time. Exchequer Bills (7,000,000^l) Bill read a second time. Ordnance Board Bill read a third time and passed. Public Health Act (1854) Continuance and Amendment Bill read a third time and passed. Dwellings for Labouring Classes Bill read a third time and passed.

6th.—Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Advances Bill read a third time and passed. Diseases Prevention Bill read a third time and passed. Criminal Justice Bill read a third time. Charitable Trusts Bill in committee. Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Continuance Bill in committee.

7th.—Appropriation Bill passed. Militia Pay Bill read a third time and passed. Charitable Trusts Bill committed. Hospitals in the East: Mr. Staniford's motion. Indian Accounts: Mr. Vernon Smith's statement.

8th.—Burials Bill read a third time and passed. Criminal Justice Bill passed. Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Bill committed. East India Company's Accounts; report received. Accidents on Railways Bill withdrawn.

9th.—Charitable Trusts Bill read a third time and passed. Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill withdrawn. Despatch of Business (Court of Chancery) Bill in committee. Metropolis Local Management Bill; Lords' amendments agreed to.

10th.—Despatch of Business (Court of Chancery) Bill read a third time and passed. Nuisances Removal Bill; Lords' amendments agreed to. Ordnance Board Bill; Lords' amendments agreed to. Sale of Beer Bill; Lords' amendments agreed to.

11th.—Limited Liability Bill; Lords' amendments agreed to. Union of Contiguous Benefices Bill; Commons' amendments not insisted on. Burials Bill; Lords' amendments agreed to.

14th.—Conduct of the War; Speeches of Sir De Lacy Evans and Lord Palmerston.

A public meeting in favour of the *Restoration of Poland* was held at St. Martin's Hall on the 8th inst. It was to have taken place on the 1st, but was postponed in consequence of the indisposition of Sir De Lacy Evans, who was to have presided. The Earl of Harrington now occupied the chair, and there was a large assemblage, among whom were Sir Robert Peel, Lord Ebrington, and other persons of distinction. Lord Ebrington moved, and Sir R. Peel seconded, a resolution to the effect that the restoration of Poland would afford the best security for the preservation of the balance of power. They advocated the formation of a Polish legion, and the vigorous prosecution of the war. But there was a hostile party present, who contrived to defeat the object of the meeting. Towards its close, Mr. Collett moved an amendment, which was seconded, asserting that "so long as Lord Palmerston was minister no proposition for the restoration of Poland can be anything but a delusion and a snare." The chairman suggested that the original resolution should be first put, as it only formed part of a series; Mr. Collett objected; hence great disturbance; during which the Earl of Harrington left the chair. The meeting having been much thinned, Mr. George Thompson appeared, and putting the amendment, declared it carried—with only "six" dissentients.

The *Administrative Reform Association* held a meeting at the London Tavern on the 8th inst.,—Mr. Morley in the chair,—for the purpose of receiving a report from the committee. This was a long document describing the proceedings of the committee, and containing a proposal for the reform of the Civil Service. It is proposed that itinerant courts of examiners should hold periodic sittings, where any British subject may present himself for examination, and if passed, may then go before a central department, composed of three persons nominated by the Crown. The examination to be open and competitive; and the appointments, as they fall vacant, to be given to the candidates "with the highest number of marks." The report also approved of the appointment of Mr. Willes to a Judgeship, and Sir William Molesworth to the Colonial Office; and urged the appointment of Mr. Rowland Hill as Postmaster-General. The chairman moved, and Mr. Tite seconded, the adoption of the report, which was adopted accordingly.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

THERE have been trials at the Warwick Assizes, arising out of the case of *Cruelty in the Birmingham Gaol* in 1853. Lieutenant Austin, late governor of the gaol in succession to Captain Maconochie, was first indicted alone for illegally assaulting Andrews, a prisoner. This charge was fully made out. Andrews was lad. He was said to have been guilty of irregular conduct, and given to making a great noise; and as a punishment Lieutenant Austin ordered him to be placed in the "jacket," a very rigorous strait-waistcoat, and strapped to the wall; he was also ordered to perform 10,000 revolutions of the crank daily, and deprived of any food except bread and water if he did not complete the task. Sometimes water was thrown over prisoners when in the jacket, and it was supposed they were "shamming fainting or something of that sort." Andrews came in for his share of the water. Competent witnesses, as Mr. Sherwin, the gaol chaplain, deposed that he was of a mild disposition; always pained and anxious; and that he complained of being too weakly for the heavy crank labour, and "appeared so too." One morning he was found hanging in his cell. The judge said that the use of the strait-waistcoat, the collar, and water, were clearly illegal punishments. The jury found Lieutenant Austin guilty. Austin and Blount, the surgeon, were then indicted for assaulting one Hunt, a person

considered insane. The assault consisted of putting on the jacket, and thrusting salt into the prisoner's mouth when he furiously yelled, strove to bite, and kicked at everybody. In this case the jury acquitted the accused of unnecessary violence. In two other cases both Austin and Blount were found guilty of omitting to make certain entries in the prison books. The parties convicted have not been brought up for judgment.

An uncommon trial took place at the Bristol Assizes—an action brought by an officer in the Militia against a lady for *Breach of Promise of Marriage*. Mr. John Holder, Captain in the Fifth Lancashire Militia, now at Aldershot, brought his action to recover damages from Miss Josling, a young lady of considerable fortune. It appears that Captain Holder offered Miss Josling his hand at a time when she had just lost her parents, and was nearly friendless. She accepted the offer, out of a feeling of gratitude, as she alleged. The wedding-day was fixed, and the bridesmaids appointed. Meanwhile, Mr. Josling, an elder brother of the bride, returned home; questioned his sister; found she had no affection for the gallant Captain, and advised her frankly to state as much. She did so; and thereupon, in the words of his counsel, Captain Holder "was so much agonised that he felt it necessary for his own honour to bring this action." The plaintiff's attorney demanded as much money—400/-—as would pay for the presents made to Miss Josling, the "travelling expenses" of her lover, and the lawyer's bill. Mr. Justice Williams administered a severe rebuke to the men of obtuse feelings who would not hesitate to bring any kind of action for money, although they made themselves the scorn of every manly heart: whether the plaintiff was such a man he would leave the jury to say. Damages for the plaintiff—300/-.

The *Commission of Inquiry into the Conduct of the Police* concluded their examination of witnesses on the 2nd instant. At the close of the proceedings, the President stated, that in consequence of the volume of the evidence, and the duties he and his colleagues had to discharge, some time must elapse before they could make a report.

At the Carlisle Assizes, on the 6th inst., Edward Wilson was tried on the charge of *Forging and Uttering a Cheque* for 539*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* on the Cumberland and Carlisle Bank. The prisoner was formerly clerk to Mr. Mounsey, a solicitor at Carlisle, and had thus an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the signature of Messrs. Hodgson, another law firm. These gentlemen have an account at the bank. On Saturday the 3rd February, the bank received a letter from the "Rev. Thomas Sanderson, Langford Vicarage, near Lancaster," enclosing another purporting to be written by Messrs. Hodgson to the clergyman, containing an account of the sale of some property, and an order on the bank in Mr. Sanderson's favour for 539*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* The clergyman wrote to the bank that he had applied too late at the office on Friday afternoon; he was obliged to leave for his parish; would the bank forward him a cheque for the money? The bank was deceived, and sent a cheque on Hankey's, in London. Wilson had written to the postmaster at Langford, requesting that a letter missent there for the Rev. Mr. Sanderson might be forwarded to Carlisle. By this means he got the cheque. He then hastened to Langford, and posted a letter to the bank in acknowledgement of the cheque, thus preventing suspicion. He next went to London, and obtained cash for the cheque. He received a bank-note for 500*l.*, and four five-pound notes. The 500*l.* note was changed for sovereigns at the Bank of England, no doubt by Wilson. So far the rogue was safe. But with the five pound notes he took some watches and chains out of pledge at Luxmoore's, in St. Martin's-lane; the shopman indorsed the notes "Wilson," and he knew the prisoner. It happened that some considerable time elapsed before Messrs. Hodgson discovered that a cheque for 539*l.* had been paid on their account. In the meanwhile, Wilson had taken his plunder to the Isle of Man, bought a house there, and was living in it with his mother. The police were set to work; the five-pound notes had not been returned to the Bank of England; they were "stopped." When presented they were traced to Luxmoore's; thence to Wilson; and step by step the whole

fraud was made clear. Mr. Monsey and a clerk proved that the letters purporting to be written by "Mr. Sanderson" were in Wilson's writing. He was convicted, and sentenced to be transported for twenty years.

A gang of burglars were courageously repulsed while attempting to rob the house of Captain Newton, near Stockport, in the night of the 8th inst. Captain Newton is an extensive owner of land in the neighbourhood, a portion of which is let to Mr. Thomas Savage, whose farm-house and buildings are separated from the residence and garden of Captain Newton by a brick wall about 12 to 14 feet high. The inmates, besides Captain and Mrs. Newton, were a footman and two domestic servants. In the farm-house with Mr. Thomas Savage lives his brother William, who is a stout and powerful young man, and several farm servants. During the night above mentioned, William Savage had occasion to be out late, and returned home about two o'clock in the morning, when he saw two ladders reared against the wall. On making up to the spot he was instantly seized by two men, who got him down upon the pavement. He saw a third man standing by, and two others soon appeared, as if they had come down the ladders. When down he heard a clicking sound, as of the cocking of a pistol. All the five then made off up the farmyard towards the fields; some of them were in advance of the others, but one of them, when only about four yards off, turned round, and, seeing Savage had regained his feet, discharged a pistol at him. The ball passed through the upper part of his hat, making a hole and tearing it. Seeing that the men were separating, Savage made a desperate run after the hindmost, and caught him by the back of his coat collar. The man called for help, upon which the other four returned, and again got Savage upon the ground. He heard one of them cock a pistol, and another struck him several times with a truncheon. Having severely beaten him, they left him prostrate and ran off. On examining the premises, it was found that the two ladders had been brought by the burglars from the farmyard of Mr. Elkanah Cheetham, about 200 yards distant.

Messrs. Strahan, Paul, & Bates, appeared at Bow-street on the 15th inst., for the tenth time, and were again remanded. Mr. Humphreys, in the absence of Mr. Bodkin, brought additional evidence tracing two of Dr. Griffith's bonds to Coutts & Co. No additional evidence will be offered until September. Bail was proffered and accepted on behalf of Mr. Bates; the sureties being Mr. James Anderton, of Bridge-street, Blackfriars, and Mr. Bates, a Liverpool merchant, brother of the accused. Sir John Paul was brought up on the 24th, when he was admitted to bail; the sureties being Mr. Thomas Graham of Reading, and Mr. John Woodball, coachbuilder in Orchard-street.

The case of Boyle v. Cardinal Wiseman has been settled by agreement at the Croydon Assizes, without going to trial. The terms were, that the defendant is to pay 100*l.* towards the costs of the abortive trial at Guildford, and the whole of the taxed costs of the trial at Kingston, and the present action; and it was arranged between the counsel that an apology, or retraction, should be demanded or given. The costs to be paid, it was said, will amount to nearly 12*00*.

At Maidstone Assizes, George Henry Smith, formerly postmaster at Jersey, was tried for *Murdering his Wife* at Rochester. One morning he shot her while she was in bed. It appeared that he had formerly been in a lunatic asylum; that since the homicide he had been decidedly insane, and still remained so. The jury acquitted him on the ground of insanity.

Two melancholy cases of *Suicide* are mentioned in the Belfast papers. One was that of a middle-aged man, in comfortable circumstances—a Mr. Henry John Gerrard, a native of London, who contrived to put an end to his existence on Saturday morning by forcibly straining a leather strap round his neck. His body was found by his sister lying on the floor, and a copy of "Carpenter's Animal Physiology," which he appeared to have spent a great part of the night reading, was by his side. The deceased was described as an artist, and no cause was assigned for his act of self-destruction.—The other case was that of a poor woman, who placed her head on the rails of the Ballymena Railway when a

train was approaching, and, in spite of the efforts of the driver to stop the engine, was instantaneously killed, her body being mangled in a shocking manner. The unfortunate woman had been telling her children the night before that she no longer knew how to support them.

A shocking case of *Murder and Suicide* has occurred at the village of Bradshaw, near Bolton. On the 8th inst. it was discovered that a clog-maker, named Thomas Jolly, had cut the throats of his two children, and afterwards his own. The man had been a habitual drunkard. When discovered, he was quite dead, and his daughter, three years old was also dead, but his son, aged five, was alive, but with little hope of recovery. The poor boy was able to give some account of the tragedy. He said that, as his father was taking him and his sister upstairs, she asked if they were going to bed then. The father replied, "I am taking you to your everlasting bed: we will all be buried together." The little girl answered, "What, with mammy?" When they got into the room, Jolly took the girl and held her so that the boy could not see her; and, afterwards, when her father laid her on the bed, and thus displayed the fatal wound in her neck, the boy asked, "What have you done that for?" The father again said something about their being buried together. From this it is supposed that, whilst the boy was between the room door and one side of the bed, his father took the little girl to the other side of the bed, and, leaning upon it, cut her throat, for there was blood on the wall at that side of the bed, and also upon the portion of the counterpane which overhung the bed on that side. Then he had seized the little boy and attempted to take his life in a similar manner; but the two wounds on the left side of his neck and the cuts upon his fingers indicate that he had offered all the resistance in his power to the murderous attack of his father. In all probability, the severe wound was inflicted whilst the little fellow was on the bed, just at the time a neighbour entered the house to search for him and the little girl to go to school, and the noise she heard would be caused, she thinks, by the boy falling off the bed to the place where he was afterwards found, from whence he could see what was subsequently done by his father, which he doubtless did. The man was a widower, his wife having died in childbirth a few months ago.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A LARGE portion of the village of Chamouni has been *Destroyed by Fire*. On the morning of the 20th of July, a fire broke out in the Hotel d'Angleterre, and twenty-two houses were consumed. The Hotels d'Angleterre, de Londres, and de la Couronne were burnt down, besides nineteen houses belonging to the poorer inhabitants. No lives have been lost, but there have been sad accidents. Half the village, including part of the church, has been burnt, and a great amount of property destroyed. A subscription has been already set on foot by the English chaplain, Mr. Ferryman, and by Dr. Malan, who was at Chamouni at the time. These gentlemen were very active in giving relief to the wretched sufferers, and in aiding to extinguish the fire. Mr. Albert Smith is receiving subscriptions for the benefit of the poor inhabitants.

Miss Oxley, a young lady of five and twenty, daughter of the late Dr. Oxley of Bridlington, has been *Killed by the Fall of a Cliff*, under which she was sitting. She was walking on the sands at Bridlington-quay with another young lady, who returned home, leaving her companion behind. As she did not return, alarm was excited, and it was found that the unfortunate young lady had been crushed to death by a fall of the cliff in weight about 30 tons. The earth had fallen upon her as she was sitting to rest herself.

The fuse manufactory of Messrs. Hawke and Co., of Gwennap, in Cornwall, has been *Destroyed by a Gunpowder Explosion*. There were ten women employed in the manufactory, and two of them were engaged in binding lengths of fuse called "rods," when one of these broke, and friction being caused by the machinery, some

loose powder was ignited, which communicated with 100lb. weight of gunpowder, and a terrific explosion was the result. Two of the women were killed, and all the others were more or less injured. One of the young women killed was to have been married in a few days.

A child has been *Killed by Lightning* in its mother's arms. On Sunday afternoon, the 5th instant, the wife of William Spragg, a bricklayer, of Grimstone, Norfolk, was proceeding to church with her little boy, three and a half years old, along a road lined with trees, when a storm came on, and she took him up in her arms and went along with an umbrella over her head. Suddenly, when near a tree, the lightning struck her at the feet, and she felt, as she describes, as if her feet were suddenly taken off, her strength instantaneously gone, and she was immediately unconscious. She had not seen the light of the flash, nor heard any sound, although the electric fluid must have passed with a great crash down the tree, which it tore as it passed, proceeding thence along the ground to the poor woman's feet, tearing open her boots and ripping up the whole length of her stockings, then passing up her body as far as her breast, which as well as her legs are very much burnt; and making its way out through her dress over against her left breast into the child which was held there, killed it.

A very melancholy Accident happened at Stalybridge, on the 7th inst. Four children, between the ages of ten and seven, were playing on a balk of timber, which had been thrown over the river Tame. The youngest fell into the river, dragging his three companions after him, and they were all immediately carried away by the strength of the stream. Immediately on the accident taking place, several persons promptly and courageously rushed into the river in various places. Three were saved, but the youngest, named David Armitage, was never seen after he fell into the river.

Two children and a young man have perished in a Fire at a public-house at Altringham, in Cheshire. When the fire was discovered, Mr. Cooper, the landlord, safely leapt from a window into the street, got a ladder, and rescued his wife and five of his children; he could not find his other children; people soothed him by expressing a belief that they had been removed in the confusion: but when the fire was got under, the corpses of the little boys and that of the man-servant were found in the ruins.

A dreadful Fire, involving the sacrifice of four lives, occurred at George-row, Bermondsey-wall, on Sunday morning, the 12th inst. Mrs. Fordham carried on the business of pawnbroker in the Row; her brother, Mr. William Wood, her three young sons, and a servant-girl, occupied the house. About midnight a policeman discovered that the basement was on fire, and he attempted to arouse the inmates. Mrs. Fordham and one of her sons tried to descend the stairs, but were obliged, after shouting to the other persons in the house, to escape by the top windows into the next house. A fire-escape was quickly brought; but the conductor found it impossible to enter any of the rooms, and no one appeared at the windows. The flames quickly seized all the floors, and the house was gutted. Mr. Wood, two of Mrs. Fordham's children, and the girl, perished.

A fête at Cremorne Gardens on the 13th inst., for the benefit of the Wellington College, was attended by a lamentable Accident. There was a representation of the storming of the Mamelon at Sebastopol. For this especial occasion some five hundred Grenadier Guards and other soldiers were permitted to appear on the scene. At the very climax of the mimic war, when the soldiers were rushing forward to the capture of the Mamelon with bayonets fixed, their ardour carried them away, and they sprang upon a slightly-built platform, not intended for their use; it gave way under their weight, and sixty men were precipitated a considerable distance. The consequences were serious: five cases of fracture, one soldier having both legs broken; and more than twenty men received wounds from bayonets or were otherwise hurt.

Hannah Tribe, keeper of a beer-shop in Church-row, St. Pancras, and her young daughter, have perished in a Fire which destroyed the house. Mrs. Tribe was in difficulties, having been deceived as to the amount of

business attached to the house, which she had recently taken; and she was in a very desponding state on the evening preceding the fire; but there was no evidence adduced before the coroner to show that the fire had been wilfully caused by her with a view to self-destruction. While the fire was raging she appeared at a window, calling to a policeman to get a ladder; he told her to jump out and he would catch her, but she declined to do this, ran to an upper floor, and soon after disappeared.

Several *Railway Accidents* have happened within a few days. On Sunday, the 19th inst., about one o'clock in the morning, a special train, consisting of fifty or more carriages, drawn by only one engine, which left Blackpool at 6 o'clock on Saturday evening, on its way towards Todmorden, &c., entered Summit Tunnel. It was there brought to a stand by want of water, and whilst the engine was getting a supply, a goods train ran into it and broke two carriages to pieces and injured others. Several of the excursion passengers were much bruised. Few escaped without a serious shock; some were thrown across the line, and a man residing at Heptonstall had his thigh fractured. An accident of an alarming character occurred on the North British Railway on the 20th. The express train for the south, which leaves Edinburgh at 9.50 a.m., ran off the rails when within about three and a half miles of Berwick. There is an embankment at this part of the line, down which the train was precipitated with great force, several of the carriages having been completely smashed, and the engine turned quite round. The engine driver (Handyside) and stoker (Anderson) were both injured, the latter so severely, that he is not expected to recover. The passengers generally were more fortunate, most of them having suffered but slight bruises. On Tuesday, the 21st, three accidents occurred. The first was on the Eastern Counties Railway. When the train which left Tilbury at half-past 8 in the evening, nearly reached the Bow junction, the engine suddenly failed, and before it could be removed from the line, a Woolwich train, following at the usual distance, ran into it, smashing the back paneling of the last carriage. A scene of frightful confusion ensued, and the cries for assistance were alarming; it was soon discovered that about sixteen persons were more or less injured, several of them very seriously. The second was on the Great Western Railway, near the Priestfields junction. Shortly before the train (in which there was a large number of passengers) reached the station, the engine, tender, guard's van, and a first-class carriage jumped suddenly off the railway, inflicting some damage to the engine and carriages, but happily without hurting any of the passengers. The third was on the Lancashire and Yorkshire line, near Oldham. The accident occurred to the train from Manchester. There were seven carriages in the train, the first three being third class, and the remainder being first and second class carriages. About 150 yards from the station there is a pair of points on the line leading into a goods yard, and it appears that these were properly placed for the approaching train, for the engine and the first two (third class) carriages went on the right line, but from some cause, as yet unexplained, the third carriage gave a sudden jerk, the coupling chain snapped, and it fell over on the goods line. Being near the station the steam had been shut off, and the train was moving so slowly that the concussion was slight; and though there were a great many people in the carriage no one sustained any serious injury. They all got out safely, and walked up to the station.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE Quarterly return of the Registrar-General has been made up to the end of last March for marriages, and to the end of June for births and deaths. The results show the marriages considerably below, and the births and deaths slightly above, the average proportions for the respective periods. The winter quarter, comprising the months of January, February, and March, is never a favourite time of the year for marriages, which

appear invariably to reach their greatest height in the last, or autumn quarter. Last year, for instance, the marriages in the first and last quarters respectively were 33,144, and 47,666; in the year preceding, for the same periods, 35,014, and 48,886; in 1852, 32,977 and 47,313. In the quarter ending last March they were only 29,131—a result ascribed in the return to the combined operation of high prices, diminished employment in some districts, severity of weather, and the withdrawal of an increased number of men for the services of the army and navy. The births in the last quarter were 165,250, being below the numbers for the same period of 1854, but above those for the corresponding quarters in 1851, 1852, and 1853. Taking the mean for ten years ending in 1854, the rate of births per cent. in the second or spring quarter of the year would be 3·489; whereas last quarter they were 3·531. The deaths in the same period were 106,584, so that the net increase of population during the three months in question was 58,666. Against this, however, must be set the emigrations to foreign countries; and these are put down in the return as 65,210; but it must be understood that the computation of births refers solely to England, whereas the emigrants spoken of were by no means exclusively Englishmen. Upon the whole, it seems to be calculated that the population of England increases at the rate of some 200,000 a-year. For the middle of the year 1855 it is estimated at 16,721,000, for the middle of the present year at 18,786,000, giving an increase of about 2,000,000 upon the whole period. The document includes some statistics from a new return compiled by the Emigration Commissioners, indicating to a great extent the various occupations and capacities of the persons who emigrated during the year 1854. The aggregate number was 323,429, and of these 136,375 were females, and 187,054 males, while 250,487 were adults, and 72,942 under 14 years of age. Of the adult women—100,918 in number—28,564 were married, and 11,378 were domestic and farm servants. The 134,789 adult men included 50,914 labourers, gardeners, carmen, carriers, and carters; 13,491 farmers; 3,981 bricklayers, masons, slaters, and plasterers; 5,185 carpenters and joiners; 1,790 blacksmiths, farriers, or veterinary surgeons; 1,989 tailors; 1,151 boot and shoe makers; and 933 bakers. What were the destinations of these emigrants we are not informed; but of the 65,210 who emigrated during the last quarter it is stated by the Registrar-General that 39,569 proceeded to the United States, 10,397 to British North America, 14,639 to the Australian colonies, and 665 to other places. The prices of provisions, which are recorded by the Registrar-General as "sensibly affecting the births, deaths and marriages" of the people, though still high, are lower than last year. The general state of the public health, as indicated by the last quarterly return, shows a distinct improvement over the three previous quarters. The total deaths for the quarter ending last September were 113,939, for that ending December 109,664, and for that ending with March 134,605. In the last quarter, as above stated, they were only 106,584, but this shows a slight excess over the corresponding period of 1854, when they were but 102,666.

The practice of *Colonels Contracting for the Clothing of their Regiments is done away with*. In lieu of the emoluments from this source, Colonels of regiments are in future to receive the following allowances per annum—Grenadier Guards, 1000*l.*; Coldstream Guards, 1000*l.*; Scots Fusilier Guards, 1000*l.*; 1st Dragoon Guards, 800*l.*; other regiments of Dragoon Guards and Dragoons, each 450*l.*; 1st Regiment of Foot, 1200*l.*, to be reduced to 1000*l.* in the event of a vacancy occurring; 60*l.* ditto, 1st battalion 600*l.*; 2nd ditto, 600*l.*; Rifle Brigade, 1st battalion, 600*l.*; 2d ditto, 600*l.*; other regiments of Infantry of the Line and West India regiments, each 600*l.*, if appointed before the 1st June, 1854, but if appointed subsequently, only 500*l.* per annum.

The practice of *Open-air Preaching* has been adopted by some of the clergy. During several weeks, the Rev. Newman Hall, of Surrey Chapel, has preached to working men, on Monday and Thursday evenings, at the Obelisk, in Blackfriars-road. A police-serjeant having finally obliged the rev. gentleman to desist, Lord Shaftesbury interested himself in the case, and has since written

to Mr. Hall as follows:—"I saw Sir R. Mayne on Saturday. He spoke in high terms of open-air preaching, and gave orders that you should not be interrupted by the police in any way. You may safely resume your station and your work, and may God be with you in preaching the Gospel to the poor."

The management of the *National Gallery* has been reconstituted by a Treasury minute recently published. A board of trustees is to be continued, but the number is to be diminished as vacancies occur. No man is to be trustee ex officio; and the Treasury is to have the appointment. The office of keeper is not abolished, but amalgamated with that of secretary. A director is created, with the salary of 1000*l.*, and a five years' tenure of office. The trustees are continued, not to share the responsibility of the director, but to keep up a connection between the cultivated lovers of art and the institution, and to invest the management with social influence. A fixed sum is to be voted in the estimates every year for the purchase of pictures. The director will recommend in writing the pictures to be purchased to the board of trustees. The director is also charged with the care of the pictures and the construction of a correct history of every picture in the collection, its vicissitudes and repairs—the history to be posted up from time to time. A travelling agent will be appointed, with a salary of 300*l.* a year, for surveying private collections abroad and collecting information of probable sales. The director newly appointed is Sir Charles Eastlake; the keeper and secretary, Mr. Ralph Wormum, with a salary of 750*l.*; and the travelling agent is Mr. Otto Münder, with a salary of 300*l.*

Wild Court, Drury Lane, long the opprobrium of that quarter, has undergone a complete transformation at the hands of the *Society for Improving the condition of the Labouring Classes*. Up to November last, this notorious court sheltered about 1000 persons in its thirteen houses. These crowded dwellings and their inmates were in a state of indescribable filth, and the place was the resort of the worst and lowest characters. In November, the Society undertook to cleanse this human sty, and they have accomplished the task at a cost of 1700*l.* The filth has been removed, the drainage made more effective, and due supplies of water insured, and the interiors of the rooms have been re-arranged so as to secure ventilation, comfort, and decency. The rooms now accommodate 83 families, instead of 200, and they enjoy this superior accommodation at a little less than the old rental. A few days ago, the Earl of Shaftesbury and a number of gentlemen interested in the schemes of the society inspected the new arrangements.

The *New Beer Act* has come into operation. The hours for public-houses to be opened are now on Sunday, Christmas-day, Good Friday, or any fast or thanksgiving day, from one to three and from five to eleven. The houses are not to be opened before four o'clock on the morning following the days mentioned, except to a traveller or lodger therein. Houses for public resort are prohibited in the same manner from being opened for the sale of liquors. Constables are empowered to enter public-houses. A penalty not exceeding 5*l.* may be levied for every offence against the act, and every separate sale to be deemed an offence. The expression "*bona fide traveller*" has been left out of the new law.

The new act for further promoting the establishment of *Free Public Libraries and Museums in municipal towns*, and for extending it to towns governed under local improvement acts and to parishes, has been printed. There is a new provision as to the City of London. The public libraries act of 1850 is repealed, and under this act the admission to the public is to be "free of all charge." Town councils may adopt the act if determined upon by the inhabitants, and the expenses to be paid out of the borough fund, so also may the board of any district within the limits of an improvement act under similar circumstances. Upon a requisition of at least ten ratepayers a meeting of a parish may be called, and if two-thirds of the ratepayers then present shall determine, the act shall come into operation in the parish, and the expenses of the same to be paid out of the poor-rate. The vestries of two neighbouring parishes may adopt the act. With

regard to the City of London, it is enacted that the Lord Mayor of the City of London shall, on the request of the City in Common Council assembled, convene a public meeting in order to determine whether the act shall be adopted, and if at such meeting two-thirds of such persons then present shall decide, the act shall come into operation, and the expenses to be paid out of the consolidated rate. In order to prevent agitation, it is provided that if any meeting called in any borough, district, or parish shall determine against the adoption, no meeting for a similar purpose shall be held for the space of one year at least from the time of holding the previous meeting.

The Post Office has issued two notes respecting the *Postage of Newspapers* to the British colonies and foreign countries, and another relating to the *Postage of Books* to Western Australia via Melbourne. Henceforth newspapers going abroad will not require the impressed or old newspaper-stamp, but simply a penny postage-stamp or a penny in money when destined to the British colonies, and the additional postage according to the specified rates when its destination is a foreign country. The old newspaper-stamp will only be required in the case of the transmission and retransmission of newspapers in the United Kingdom. The rate of postage on books to Western Australia will be—for packets under a half-pound in weight, six-pence; exceeding a half-pound but under a pound, one shilling; exceeding one pound but under two pounds, two shillings; and so on, increasing one shilling for every pound or fraction of a pound.

All the *London Joint-stock Banks* have now held their usual half-yearly meetings. Their accounts show a continued increase of prosperity. The aggregate of deposits at the end of last year was 26,315,473*l.*; in June it had swelled to 29,376,410*l.* The paid-up capitals amount to 3,066,332*l.*; and the guarantee-funds to 601,229*l.* The dividends and bonuses for the year ending June 30 were at the following rates—London and Westminster Bank, 14 per cent; London Joint-Stock Bank, 23 per cent; Union of London, 20 per cent; London and County, 10 per cent; Commercial, 10 per cent; Royal British, 6 per cent. These six banks will henceforth have to compete with others: one, the City Bank, commenced business last week; a second, the Bank of London, will open two establishments on the 22nd; while there are other companies projected.

Mr. Mechi held his annual *Tiptree Gathering* on the 4th inst. It was very numerously attended, and Mr. Mechi stated that the farm left a net profit last year of 600*l.*, and he expected this year it would do still better.

The anniversary of the *Hospital for Diseases of the Skin* was celebrated on the 7th inst. by a *déjeuner* at the Crystal Palace. The Hon. A. Kinnaird was in the chair. The company was numerous, and many eminent persons were present. In the course of the proceedings, the chairman made an effective speech, advocating in eloquent terms the claims of the charity, and was followed by Dr. Southwood Smith and Mr. James Startin, the principal surgeon in attendance at the hospital. From the statements made by these gentlemen it appears that the hospital is conferring a very large amount of benefit on the poor. Since its foundation in 1841, 62,538 cases have been registered, and the number of patients now in attendance averages upwards of 10,000 per annum. The great majority of these had been effectually cured, and the incurable cases appear not to exceed more than 2 per cent. Before the termination of the meeting, subscriptions to the amount of about 550*l.* were announced.

The *Annual Cattle show of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society* took place at Dublin on the 8th inst. It was an average exhibition. In the evening, the Duke of Leinster presided over the banquet, and the Lord-Lieutenant was present and took part in the proceedings. In acknowledging a toast to his health, the Earl of Carlisle noticed the improvements which of late years have been effected. For instance: the quantity of land in cultivation had increased from 13,461,300 acres in 1841, to 14,892,581 acres in 1851; while the value of live stock during the same period rose from 19,329,000*l.* to 27,326,000*l.*, and reached to

33,508,000*l.* in 1854. Then the growth of wheat has diminished, and green crops, oats, barley, and flax, have increased. There were in 1853, 174,379 acres under flax cultivation, and in 1854 the scutch-mills amounted to 1100. While the population has decreased, the productions of Ireland have increased, and the condition of the remaining population has been benefited in two ways. "Thus, gentlemen," said Lord Carlisle, "if such has been the continued progress, despite the blight of famine and the drain of emigration, and the dreadful calamity of war, whether we refer to the productivity of the soil, the enterprise of the proprietors, or the general condition of the people, may not our hopes for the future—sobered, indeed, by a reliance upon the inscrutable will of an all-ruining Providence—may not our hopes for the future be most encouraging and sanguine? And if such be the general improvement in Irish agriculture and the condition of the Irish population, let me add my earnest hope that this society, the great Irish Agricultural Society itself, may long continue to witness and develop its inestimable advantages under the genial auspices of your Grace; and that, gathering still increasing support from all classes and from all orders—from those who represent the most ancient lineage and the largest wealth of the country, and from those whose hard-working industry and labour sustain the wide basis of our social fabric—bringing to bear all the new lights of science, applying all such new methods and preferring all such old ones as experience may approve, this society may progress each future year as it has done each past year of its valuable existence, and find its best reward in the acknowledgments of new advantages conferred upon a peaceful, a prosperous, and a grateful people."

The report of the *Crystal Palace Company* was presented to a meeting held on the 9th inst. The amount expended up to the 30th June was 1,231,000*l.*, and the liabilities to be discharged before closing the capital account amount to 45,000*l.*, which will make a total of 1,275,000*l.* This is exclusive of 65,000*l.* remaining due on the original purchase of land, and against which there are available assets of 38,000*l.* Estimating everything, the general result coincides with the statement a year ago, that the undertaking would be completed for 1,300,000*l.* The estimate of 1000*l.* a week for expenditure has also proved correct. The net profits of the first year (exclusive of 25,786 guinea season tickets, which are applicable to the next year) have been 63,000*l.*, out of which a dividend of 5 per cent. was declared in February, leaving 12,299*l.* now to be carried over. The total number of visitors to the Palace, exclusive of season ticket-holders, has been 1,322,008, of which 956,232 were from the opening to the 30th December, and 365,776 from the 30th of December to the 30th of June last. The rental for space in the former period was 17,738*l.*, and in the latter only 4,311*l.* Much of the permanent success of the undertaking is felt to depend on the increase of railway facilities, and it is expected that the West-end line, which is now proceeding with vigour, will be finished in the course of next year. The shareholders having already had a dividend for the year, none is declared on the present occasion; but, if one should be warranted on making up the books in December, the directors will call a meeting. Sir J. Paxton, having brought all the works and arrangements of the building and grounds to a point which requires only ordinary labour for their completion, desires, for the sake of his other duties, to be relieved from the further exercise of an active superintendence, but will continue to give the company the benefit of his counsel and experience. Mr. Laing, the chairman, retires, and there are likewise vacancies in the direction, occasioned by the resignation of Messrs. Fuller, Calvert, and Lushington.

On the 9th inst., the boys of the three "Shoeblock Brigades" went to Richmond Park, by water, accompanied by a large number of friends. The bright uniforms of the Red, the Blue, and the Yellow Societies, caused many a good humoured smile from the people in the Strand as the 120 lads marched along with a band, and banners gaily painted with emblems appropriate to their humble, but useful calling. Football, cricket, and other boyish amusements were enjoyed in the park,

after which the steamer returned. The pleasant greeting of many hundreds of spectators on the river, told how hearty is the sympathy felt for those who are enjoying a holiday made sweet by honest labour. There are many shoeblocks in the streets who will not join any of the societies. More than 2,000/- a year is earned by the boys in London.

On the 14th inst., nearly 400 children, attending the *Ragged Schools* of the united parishes of St. Giles's and St. George, Bloomsbury, were treated to an excursion to Willesden on the Harrow-road, where they spent the day in the fields adjoining the house, selected for their reception. They made the trip comfortably seated in nine vans, and took their departure from the schoolhouse in George-street, St. Giles's, amid the cheers of a large number of their parents and the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. At Willesden they were supplied with a good dinner and tea, and means of amusement and exercise were provided for them in the shape of bats, balls, swings, bows and arrows, donkey-riding, &c. In the afternoon the four curates of the two parishes, and several friends of the school, joined the youthful throng, and helped on the amusements. The expenses of the treat were defrayed by special contributions, so as to avoid resorting to the funds of the school.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

On the 31st of July, the Queen went to Portsmouth to assist at the launch of the *Marlborough*, a screw line-of-battle ship of 131 guns. There was an immense concourse of people. Her Majesty, with the usual ceremony, gave the vessel her name, and she was launched; but, in her progress to the water, she stuck fast and remained immovable, and it was not till midnight, when it was high water, that she was got off by the united exertions of 2000 men. The vessel had sustained no damage.

On the 8th instant, the Queen inspected the Foreign Legion now at Shorncliffe. Her Majesty was received by the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Hardinge, General Wetherall, Lord Panmure, and Mr. Peel. The regiments, some 3500 strong, had rapidly formed in line. They were composed of the German Light Infantry, the Rifles, the Swiss Regiment from Dover, and 500 recruits from Heligoland—a fine, strong-built, hard-looking, well-disciplined body of men. On arriving at the flagstaff, her Majesty was received by a general salute. She then inspected the whole line. After the review, Baron Stutterheim, Colonel Woolridge, and the other officers, were presented to the Queen; and, crossing the parade-ground, her Majesty and the other guests inspected one of the huts, and partook of luncheon in the mess-room of the German Light Infantry. The troops loudly cheered as the Queen departed for Osborne.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, left Osborne on Saturday, the 16th, at half-past four in the morning, on their visit to the Emperor and Empress of the French. The royal yacht arrived about two in the afternoon at Boulogne, where splendid preparations were made to receive the illustrious visitors, the Emperor himself having come from Paris for that purpose. The Emperor was waiting on the quay, and, as soon as the vessel came alongside, hastened on board; and, after respectfully kissing her Majesty's hand, saluted her upon both cheeks. He then shook hands with Prince Albert, the Princess Royal, and the Prince of Wales, and, giving his hand to the Queen, led her down the stage to a pavilion on the quay, within which state chairs were placed on a dais, and here her Majesty, seated, received the congratulations of the civic authorities and the English residents. After a brief pause the Emperor led her Majesty to one of the royal carriages. The Princess Royal took her place beside the Queen, and Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales took the opposite seats, while the Emperor mounted his horse, and rode upon her Majesty's right hand. Several carriages followed, containing her Majesty's suite. In this manner they reached the railway station amid the strains of military music and the acclamations of thousands of

spectators. The cortège passed under a lofty triumphal arch, and entered the reception-room, which was magnificently fitted up. About half-past two the train started for Paris. At Amiens the magistracy of the district were assembled, and the daughter of the prefect, an interesting young lady of seventeen, habited in white, approached the royal carriage, and timidly but gracefully presented to the Queen a splendid bouquet, which Her Majesty received with more than queenly courtesy. The progress of the train was extremely rapid after leaving Amiens, and the royal party arrived safely at 10 minutes past 7 o'clock at Paris, the journey having been performed in four hours and a half. Instead of alighting at the station of the railway by which she travelled to Paris, the Queen was conveyed to the terminus of the Strasbourg line, as best adapted by its architecture for adding to the ceremonial effects of a grand reception. The road of the procession lay along the Boulevard de Strasbourg, the Porte St. Denis, the Boulevards Bonne Nouvelle, Poissonnière, Montmartre, Italiens, Des Capucines, and the Madeleine, down the Rue Royale, across the Place de la Concorde, and by the Champs Elysées, the new Avenue de l'Imperatrice, and the Bois de Boulogne to St. Cloud. About 4 o'clock the troops, to the number, it is said, of 100,000 men, half of the line and half of the National Guard, began to take up their positions on this immense and splendid route. The former held the left side of the thoroughfare, and the latter the right, while, penned in behind them, the myriads of spectators gradually settled into their places, and waited patiently for the arrival of the illustrious strangers. The Prefect of Police set down the number of people assembled at 800,000, and, considering the vast accession made within the last few days to the population of Paris, it did not probably fall much short of that aggregate. The expected strangers did not appear, and the people became disappointed and anxious. The reputation of our Queen for punctuality was known, and people wondered that she should be behindhand. At a quarter past 7 o'clock the dull booming of the Royal salute began, and instantly a hoarse roar of satisfaction swelled along the line of the Boulevards. The salute of 21 guns for the Queen had hardly died away when that of 101 guns for the Emperor commenced, and that in its turn had scarcely ceased when the cortège was sweeping on its way through the city. First came a troop of cavalry of the Municipal Guard at a sharp trot, then a double line of Sergens de Ville on foot, then the Commander of the Municipal Guard with his staff, then an advanced guard of the Guides, and behind these the Imperial outriders in their liveries of green and gold. An open barouche followed, drawn by four horses, and in which were seated the Queen and the Princess Royal on the one side and the Emperor and His Royal Highness Prince Albert on the other. Her Majesty, who looked exceedingly well, was greeted most enthusiastically, and graciously bowed her acknowledgments to the multitude. Nothing could exceed the cordiality and earnestness of her reception; and from the blouses on the pavement the demonstrations of respect were quite as fervent as from the wealthier classes at the windows and on the balconies. It was so along the whole route of the procession, though the declining light compelled the travellers to quicken their pace, and thus seriously abridged the opportunity for a full display of the public feeling. Behind the royal carriage came a second containing the Prince Napoleon, the Prince of Wales, Lord Clarendon, and the Marquis of Breadalbane. Others followed containing the suite of the two sovereigns; and to these succeeded a rear guard of the Guides. The Prefect of Police, the Prefect of the Seine, and other high officers of State closed the procession. The royal party arrived about 9 o'clock at the palace of St. Cloud, which had been superbly fitted up for her Majesty's reception. On Sunday the Queen did not leave the palace, but spent the day in privacy. On Monday morning her Majesty visited the Universal Exhibition of the Fine Arts, where she was received by the Prince Napoleon, MM. de Mercey (Special Commissioner for the Fine Arts Exhibition), Lepuy, Arles, Dufour, and all the members of the jury. "God Save the Queen" was struck up by the band of the Guides as her Majesty entered the building. In the course of her examination of the galleries, it was observed that

her Majesty sat down twice before M. de Winterhalter's large picture of the Empress and her ladies of honour. After having lunched at the Elysée, where she received the Corps Diplomatique, her Majesty visited the Sainte Chapelle, the Palais de Justice, the Cathedral of Notre Dame, where she was received by the Archbishop of Paris at the head of his Clergy. At all these places, and in the streets through which she passed, her Majesty was enthusiastically cheered by multitudes of people. She was everywhere attended by the Emperor. In the evening a splendid banquet was given at St. Cloud. On Tuesday the royal visitors went to Versailles. After being conducted by the Emperor through the state apartments, and surveying the grounds, they proceeded to the beautiful little palace of Trianon. There they were joined by the Empress, whose delicate state of health did not permit her to take any very prominent part in the festivities. She and the Emperor, accompanied by their royal guests, now withdrew to the chalet behind the Trianon, where in perfect retirement they had coffee served to them on the grass. The pretty chalet, with its adjoining sheet of water and mill-wheel, appeared to take the Queen completely by surprise, and her gratification and that of the Prince were still greater when the splendid band of the Guides made the air of this sweet spot resound with the choicest music. The cortège returned to St. Cloud about 4 o'clock, and, having dined there en famille at half-past 6, the royal party went at 9 in state to the Opera. The Boulevards and other streets along which they passed were brilliantly illuminated, and it is impossible to do justice to the fairy-like appearance of that part of Paris, lit up by thousands of variegated lamps. Nor was the spectacle within the Opera-house less imposing. The Emperor's box was erected in the grand tier, directly opposite the stage, and on either side of it stood, like a statue, a soldier of the Cent-Garde, en grande tenue—superb-looking fellows, 'as superbly dressed and equipped. Two others stood sentry on the stage at either wing. The pit was entirely filled with gentlemen in full evening costume, and the stalls and tiers of boxes occupied by clusters of beautiful women, resembled parterres of the rarest flowers. When the Emperor and Empress, with their guests, entered, the whole house rose to receive them, and from that brilliant assemblage our Queen met with a reception worthy of those who gave and of her who was the object of it. The enthusiastic plaudits had hardly subsided when the orchestra began to play the National Anthem, and at its close the cheering was renewed and long sustained. Her Majesty graciously acknowledged these tokens of favour. She was tastefully but simply dressed, and wore the riband of the Garter, and on her head a tiara of diamonds. She sat on the right hand of the Empress, having the Emperor on her right. On the right hand of the Emperor was the Prince Napoleon, and on the left of the Empress Prince Albert, who again had the Princess Mathilde on his left. The Empress wore a magnificent tiara of diamonds, and her delicate but beautiful features were the theme of general admiration. It is unnecessary to enter into any details as to the performance, beyond stating that it was of a miscellaneous character, including both opera and ballet, and that Alooni and Cravelli were among the vocalists. They sang "God save the Queen," with the English words, before her Majesty retired, and the house again renewed its plaudits as at the commencement, insisting upon an encore. On Wednesday the royal strangers passed several hours in visiting the Great Exhibition, and in the evening attended a grand ball at the Hôtel de Ville, a scene of the most dazzling splendour and magnificence. The exterior of the building was profusely and most tastefully decorated with flags, and illuminated by a row of gas jets running along the entire façade. Immense pyramids of coloured lamps were placed around the entrance. At half-past nine the imperial and royal cortège arrived. The Emperor, giving his arm to the Queen, led her into the court of Louis Quatorze, which had been enclosed by a temporary roof, and converted into a vast vestibule. An immense chandelier hung from the roof, the windows looking into the courtyard were draped with red curtains and illuminated by nume-

rous small chandeliers, and beneath a grand double staircase ran a cascade of clear water, which gave a delightful freshness to the air. Her Majesty, leaning upon the Emperor's arm, ascended the grand staircase, followed by Prince Albert, who conducted the Princess Mathilde. The royal visitors passed into the great ball-room where chairs of state were placed under a magnificent canopy. Her Majesty opened the hall with the Emperor, Prince Albert giving his hand to the Princess Mathilde, and the remaining dancers in the quadrille being Prince Napoleon, Lady Cowley, Prince Adalbert, and Mademoiselle Hausmann, granddaughter of the Prefect of the Seine. The Emperor then led the Queen through the crowded rooms, followed by the other members of the royal party and their suite, the company making way as they passed, and receiving their Majesties with the most respectful salutations, but without cries or exclamations. The whole suite of rooms of the Hôtel de Ville were opened to the company. About 8000 persons were present. The ladies' toilettes were of singular beauty and richness; and as there were diplomats, attachés, and military men from every country in Europe in full costume, the splendour of the scene was complete. Her Majesty wore a white silk robe covered with lace and embroidered with the flowers of the geranium, a diadem of diamonds, and a splendid diamond necklace. She also wore the blue riband of the Order of the Garter, which the Emperor also wore over his uniform. The Royal visitors, having made the circuit of the rooms, left the Hôtel de Ville by the grand staircase, Her Majesty staying to admire as she descended the tasteful preparations made to do her honour, and expressing to the Prefect the warm admiration and delight which she had derived from her visit. Their Majesties then took their departure. The Empress was unable to be present. After the royal party had left, dancing was resumed in various apartments, and continued until daybreak. On Friday the Queen, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Emperor, and the Princess Royal, paid a second visit to the Palace of Industry, and was afterwards present at a grand review in the Champ de Mars. There were from 40,000 to 45,000 troops under arms, and an immense multitude was assembled. While the troops defiled, the Queen and the Empress left the carriage, and occupied seats on the balcony of the Ecole Militaire. The Zouaves attracted the especial attention of their Majesties. As the soldiers passed in companies before the Queen they cheered her enthusiastically. At night the Queen went to the Opéra Comique. The Boulevards and the theatre were brilliantly illuminated. A dense crowd waited her Majesty's appearance, and received with vehement acclamations. The royal party return to-day (27th) after a short stay at Boulogne.

Sir William Molesworth has been appointed Secretary of State for the Colonies, vacated by the resignation of Lord John Russell; and Sir Benjamin Hall has succeeded Sir William Molesworth as Chief Commissioner of Works.

Mr. Matthew Baines has resigned the office of President of the Poor Law Board, and is succeeded in that office by Mr. Bouvier.

The Hon. William Cowper has succeeded Sir B. Hall as President of the Board of Health.

Sir James Carnegie, of Southesk, having successfully claimed the Southesk Peerage, becomes the sixth Earl. His father began the proceedings, but died before he could complete them.

Thomas Everett, a native of Brook-street, South Weald, sergeant in the 7th Fusiliers, and 22 years in the service, has just returned to his native village, Brentwood, with five wounds and the loss of an eye. His proudest boast is that he had the distinguished honour of shaking hands—a hearty English shake, too—with Her Majesty at Portsmouth, who, in presenting him with a silk handkerchief, hemmed by herself, said, "I am proud of you, my brave sergeant;" that Miss Nightingale also made him a similar present; that Miss Taylor honoured him by walking arm-in-arm with him aboard ship; and that Miss Staney sent out his pay, &c., for him to Halifax. He received a shot through the ear at the Alma, a bayonet wound through the arm in a sortie, a ball through the hip the same night, and had the sole

of his shoe torn off by a cannon-ball, as he was lifting his leg in walking. He considers that he slew about 50 Russians by his own hands! He also states that he was compelled to feign dead sixteen hours as he lay on the field of battle surrounded by Russians, in order that he might be enabled to release two comrades who were taken into Sebastopol prisoners. He got into Sebastopol, shot the sentry who was guarding the house where they were confined, released them, and brought them safely out.

Licut. Perry, whose court-martial created so much interest about a twelvemonth ago, having failed to obtain a commission in the Turkish Legion, has proceeded to Australia, the balance of the fund subscribed for him (£2,010.) having been paid to his agents in Melbourne.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

COLONEL LOWTH, of the 38th Regiment, died at Portsmouth on the 30th ult., within an hour after being landed from the *Hansa* transport, in which he had come home from the Crimea. He died of dysentery, and from the effects of a severe wound received in the successful entry into the suburb of Sebastopol, on the 15th of June.

The **EARL OF SEFTON** died on the 2nd inst., after a protracted and painful illness, at the family residence in Belgrave-square, aged 59.

GENERAL WALTER TREMENHILL died on the 7th inst., in London, in his 94th year.

MRS. LAWRENCE, of Ealing Park, died suddenly on the 14th inst. This lady, so well known in fashionable circles, was, up to the moment of her death, apparently in excellent health.

MR. PATRICK PARK, the eminent sculptor, died on the 16th inst., at Warrington, in his 48th year. The deceased, who was a native of Glasgow, studied under Thorwaldsen, at Rome, and was a contemporary disciple with Gibson.

The **DUKE OF SOMERSET** died on the 15th inst., at his town residence in Park-lane, in his 81st year.

GENERAL PEPE, whose name is well known to the readers of Italian history of the last half-century, died near Tunis on the 28th inst.

GENERAL ALI-TA, ex-President of Mexico, *en route* from Cadiz to Southampton, died suddenly on board the Tagus, on the 12th inst.

GENERAL GAELIEL GORDON, Colonel of the 91st Foot, died at his residence near Manchester, on the 7th inst. He was 92 years of age, and had been more than 74 years in the service.

GENERAL SIR RICHARD BUCKLE, K.C.B., died suddenly at his seat, in the county of Lincoln, on the 12th inst., in his 78th year.

COLONEL RICHARD TYLDEN, of the Royal Engineers, C.B., and aide-de-camp to the Queen, died at Malta on the 2nd inst., in his 36th year.

MR. HENRY COLIJNS, the well-known publisher, died at his house in Bryanston-square, on the 16th inst.

The **DUKE OF MANCHESTER** died on the 15th inst., having just completed his 56th year.

VISCOUNT HEMFORD, the premier Viscount of the English peerage, died on the 18th inst., at his residence in Wilton Crescent, in his 46th year.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR A. W. TORRENS, K.C.B., expired at Paris on the 24th. He was the Queen's Military Commissioner in France. He commanded a Division in the Crimea, and received a dangerous wound at Inkerman. From this he never wholly recovered; but his death was accelerated by grief from the loss of a sister. He had not completed his 49th year.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

ADVICES from the *Cape of Good Hope* have been received to the 3rd of June. Two reports have been presented to the Legislative Council; one on the state of the frontier. It appears that the Fingoes make some serious complaints, such as that land has been taken from them, that their cattle feeding on this land are impounded, and that regulations restraining their customs have been adopted. The report states that there was no ground for the story that the Caafres had entered the Amatolas; but at the same time it is admitted "that the unsettled state of the country at the time, the prevailing suspicions of Fingo disaffection and Caafre intrigue, were well calculated to render the functionaries who were involved peculiarly alive to rumours of not unlikely contingencies, and liable to error on the most prudent side." The second report related to the mining districts; and on the motion of the Colonial Secretary the House of Assembly agreed to appropriate £2500. "for the purpose of engaging a competent engineer to make the necessary

preliminary surveys, with a view to the formation of railroads in this colony."

Advices from *Melbourne* have been received to the 3rd of June. They give a moderately favourable account of the progress of business. The markets were still oppressed with goods, but less so than for some months past, and such trade as was carried on was for the most part safe and remunerative. Grain and farm produce generally were in great demand, and the prevalence of high prices had caused a large increase in the breadth of land sown with wheat. The export duty on gold had come into operation on the 1st of May, and, owing to the forms connected with it, a temporary diminution had occurred in the quantity brought into Melbourne, although the rate of production was understood to be undiminished. The efforts made previously to send away as much as possible had also contributed to a reaction; but, when the advices left, the gold market was improving.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE Narrative of last month brought the occurrences before *Sebastopol* down to the 25th ult. Further details of the events preceding that date have been subsequently received.

Some interesting particulars have been published relative to the death of Colonel Shadforth, of the 57th regiment, who fell in the attack on the Redan on the 18th of June. The following letter from Acting-Sergeant-Major George Cumming, of the 57th, to Colonel Shadforth's widow, affords a most affecting testimony to the esteem with which the Colonel was regarded by his regiment, and the courage with which he led it to the assault:—"Madam,—I trust you will pardon me for presuming to address you while in the midst of such distress, but I consider it my duty to convey to you the deep regret of the non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment at the loss of our late Colonel. He was our father and friend, and watched over the regiment and its wants in a manner that gained for him the adoration of his men; and never did I see more genuine grief among a body of men than was seen in the 57th

regiment for the poor Colonel; and the memory of his many acts of kindness, of his unflinching courage at the head of his own 'Die-bards,' and of his glorious death, will long be a theme in the 57th regiment. Such are the feelings of the men of the regiment—they have lost their best friend; but I have lost, if possible, more than any of them, for I never experienced such kindness as he invariably showed to me and my welfare. He lost no opportunity in advancing me in my profession, and not only did he look after my temporal but my spiritual welfare; and if ever a man died a Christian he did. I spoke to him a few minutes before he fell; the last words I heard him say were, 'Now, Colonel Warre, you mind the right, I will take the left, and Major Inglis the centre.' This was said amidst a shower of missiles of every kind, and he was then as cool and collected as if on parade. Poor Colonel! it was the last order I heard him give, and the last time I saw him alive. He could not have suffered much pain, from the nature of his wound. I would have written to you before, but I did not like to intrude upon your grief. If there is any

service I can do for you, or any information I can furnish, I will do so with pleasure; and Boakes knows that if there is anything to be done which he cannot properly manage, I will give him all the assistance in my power. In conclusion, I beg respectfully to assure you of my best wishes for the welfare of yourself and the young ladies, and I trust you will not consider me too forward in thus addressing you."

Colonel Shadforth seems to have felt some presentiment of his approaching fate, for he took leave of his wife and children the night before the assault in the following letter:—"Before Sebastopol, June 17, 9 P.M.—My own beloved Wife and dearly beloved Children,—At one o'clock to-morrow morning I head the 57th to storm the Redan. It is, as I feel, an awfully perilous moment to me, but I place myself in the hands of our gracious God, without whose will a sparrow cannot fall to the ground. I place my whole trust in Him. Should I fall in the performance of my duty, I fully rely in the precious blood of our Saviour, shed for sinners, that I may be saved through Him. Pardon and forgive me, my beloved ones, for anything I may have said or done to cause you one moment's unhappiness. Unto God I commend my body and soul, which are His; and should it be His will that I fall in the performance of my duty in the defence of my Queen and country, I most humbly say, 'Thy will be done.' God bless you and protect you; and my last prayer will be, that He, of His infinite goodness, may preserve me to you. God ever bless you, my beloved Eliza, and my dearest children; and, if we meet not again in this world, may we all meet in the mansion of our Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ. God bless and protect you; and ever believe me, your affectionate husband and loving father,

THOMAS SHADFORTH."

Her Majesty, on the receipt of the news, signed a warrant granting a pension of £200. a-year to Mrs. Shadforth, and has intimated that she will take advantage of any future opportunity which may occur to manifest her appreciation of Colonel Shadforth's services. Colonel Shadforth had a hereditary connection with the 57th; his father, who was severely wounded at Albuera, having served in it for thirty-two years, and two of his brothers being also officers in the same regiment.

A despatch from General Simpson, dated the 21st of July, describes the condition of the troops, and the positions of the hostile armies:—"I have great pleasure to inform your lordship that the health of the army has greatly improved; cholera has nearly disappeared, and although more sickness has appeared amongst the officers, it is not of that character to cause uneasiness. With reference to the exterior army, the Russians hold their strong position on the Mackenzie Heights, extending by Aitodor to Albat, with advanced posts by Chouli, Ozenbash, and the strong range of heights overhanging Urkusta and the Valley of Baidar. It is reported they have also a force of artillery and infantry at Alupka. The French have pushed forward the whole of their cavalry into the Valley of Baidar, resting upon the Sardinians, upon the left bank of the Souhai river, and communicating with the French upon the Tchernaya, whilst the high ridge protecting Balaklava is guarded by the Turkish army. I purpose sending four squadrons of light cavalry into the Valley of Baidar to-morrow, to protect and afford convoys to the commissariat for the purpose of bringing in forage and supplies for the use of the army. Major-General Markham arrived on the 19th instant, and, agreeably to the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's telegraphic message, I have appointed him to the command of the 2nd division. Sir Stephen Lushington, K.C.B., having been promoted to the rank of admiral, has been relieved in the command of the naval brigade by Captain Hon. Henry Keppel. I take this opportunity of recording my sense of the ability and zeal with which he has throughout conducted his arduous and responsible situation of commanding the naval brigade, which has rendered such excellent service in our batteries. I beg also to report to your Lordship that Mr. Commissary-General Fidler has been obliged to relinquish the command of his important department, and will have to return to England, upon the recommendation of a medical board. I enclose the list of casualties to the 19th inst."

The casualties up to the 19th July were—1 officer and 14 men killed, and 2 officers and 92 men wounded. The names of the officers were—Captain R. A. Fraser, 42nd Foot, killed, and Captain Roper, 47th Foot, and Captain Charles Hudson, Land Transport Corps, wounded. The Naval Brigade lost 2 killed and 1 wounded.

Courts-martial for being drunk on duty had been held on Captain Colin Maxwell, 93rd Highlanders, and Captain Charles Spencer Gaynor, 9th Regiment, both of whom were found guilty and sentenced to be cashiered. The court in each case recommended the prisoners to the favourable consideration of the General Commanding, on account of previous length of service; but General Simpson could not reconcile it with his sense of duty to give further effect to the recommendations than to submit them to Lord Hardinge.

Lieutenant the Hon. Edward Fitzclarence, of the 7th Fusiliers, who was so severely wounded on the 18th of June that he had to suffer amputation of the thigh, died on the 22nd of July. Until a few days before he was reported to be progressing most favourably, and preparations were made and the day fixed for his return to England. Some bad symptoms then appeared, which he had no power to resist—induced, it is said, by fretting at leaving a brother behind—and he gradually sank. Although very young, he bore the loss of his limb with exemplary fortitude.

On July 24, General Simpson further reported that, on the night of the 22nd the enemy opened a heavy fire of musketry from the parapets of the Malakhoff and adjacent works, which did no damage to either the works or soldiers. The troops in the Baidar valley had not altered their positions from the date of the last despatch. A list of casualties to the 22nd gives 10 rank and file killed; 3 sergeants, 1 drummer, 58 rank and file, wounded. In another despatch, dated the 28th ult., General Simpson says: "Since my despatch of the 24th inst., I have nothing of importance to relate. We continue to strengthen and improve our advanced works, which are now so close to the enemy's defences that I regret to say our casualties are necessarily considerable. The enemy exhibits great activity in adding to and improving their defences, and the conveyance of large military stores from the north to the south side is increasing. The cholera has nearly ceased in the ranks of the army." The list of casualties to the 26th comprises 20 rank and file killed; 1 officer (Lieut. J. Paton, 4th Foot), 4 sergeants, 1 drummer, and 133 rank and file, wounded.

The following particulars are taken from letters of newspaper correspondents: "July 26.—As a proof of the heedless indifference to danger which some of the men acquire from constantly moving amongst shot and shell, the following example, which occurred last evening, may be mentioned. A large shell had been thrown from the Redan into our right attack, and during its passage the fuze had accidentally dropped out. The shell fell, therefore, like a round shot into part of the approach connected with the old advanced or third parallel. Some men of the 47th regiment were near, waiting for the reliefs to arrive, and ready to return to camp. One of these soldiers, after examining the unexploded shell, actually had the foolhardiness to jerk the ashes of the tobacco in his pipe, which he had just finished smoking, into the fuze-hole. Another of the men standing by, and observing the action, had only just time to utter an exclamation, when the shell burst. The reckless author of the mischief suffered severely—both his legs were shattered, and he was frightfully scorched about the head and face. Five other men were wounded, but fortunately none were dangerously hurt."

"Many reforms," says the correspondent of the *Daily News*, "have taken place in the interior economy of our routine since the change at our head-quarters; they give universal satisfaction. The trench duties are now taken by divisions, which prevents a deal of trouble; in the event of casualties, the senior officers can be discovered without difficulty, and the command handed over to the proper person without requiring the aid of an Army List. The whole of the attack is placed under the command of the general of the attack, who

delivers his orders to all employed. Formerly, the Artillery was only under the control of its own chief, and received the orders from him alone. The inconvenience from this arrangement, has only now been rectified. Our new commander-in-chief seems determined to view all things for himself, and will take nothing on hearsay. He was nearly taken as a spy by some soldier ignorant of his rank not long since, as the latter could not understand what business an officer in a very shabby uniform, and without any attendants, had in promenading through the most advanced and exposed trenches, looking into the magazines, taking the directions of the mortar-batteries, and making himself master of the whole plan of our attack."

General Simpson's despatches continue the narrative of the siege. On the 31st of July he writes:—"I beg to enclose the list of casualties to the 29th inst., which, I regret to say, are very heavy. The proximity of our works to those of the enemy, together with the lightness of the nights and rocky nature of the ground, making it impossible to obtain rapid cover, materially contributes to such a result; notwithstanding which disadvantages our engineers continue steadily though slowly to advance in the direction of the Great Redan. An agreeable change has taken place the last few days in the temperature of the weather; heavy showers of rain have occasionally fallen. Several reconnaissances have been made from the valley of Bairdan towards Ozenbash, Aitodar, and through the Phoros Pass towards Aloupka, the enemy nowhere appearing in any force; but the narrowness of the mountain roads, with the exception of the Woronzoff, makes it unnecessary for them to alter their concentrated position on the heights of Mackenzie and plateau of the Belbek. The health of the troops continues very satisfactory." The general list of casualties for two days consists of 1 sergeant, 11 rank and file, killed; 5 officers, 2 sergeants, 106 rank and file, wounded. The officers wounded are as follows: "July 28, 19th Foot—Lieut. A. Goren, slightly; 44th—Capt. L. Thoroton, slightly; 46th—Major C. F. Campbell, Assistant-Engineer, slightly; 96th—Capt. N. Stevens, slightly. July 29, 77th—Assistant-Surgeon E. L. Lundy, slightly." In a despatch dated the 4th inst. General Simpson says: "On the night of the 2nd instant, between ten and eleven o'clock, the enemy made a sortie in considerable force by the Woronzoff road. The strength of the enemy is computed to be about 2,000. Their object was to destroy a heavy iron chevaux de frise, made across the Woronzoff road, between our right and left attacks, and being further supported by heavy columns in rear, to take advantage of such circumstances as might present themselves. They came on with loud cheers and bugling, and were received with great gallantry by our advanced picket, under the command of Lieut. R. E. Carr, of the 39th regiment, who withdrew his men, firing at the same time upon the enemy, to the main body, under the command of Capt. Leckie, 39th regiment. A heavy and well-directed fire was opened upon the enemy by the party under Captain Leckie on the Woronzoff road, as also by the guards of the trenches on the right of the 4th parallel, under the command of Captain Boyle, of the 89th regiment, and Captain Turner, of the 1st Royals, which in about ten minutes caused the enemy to retire from an attack which, if it had not been so well met, might have been a serious affair. The enemy left four men killed, and some wounded were carried away. We had only one man slightly wounded in this affair. I have the satisfaction of announcing the return to this army of Captain Montague, of the Royal Engineers, from being a prisoner of war. He expresses himself highly grateful for the kindness with which he was treated by the Russians during his captivity. It is with great regret that I have to communicate that Lieut.-General Sir R. England, G.C.B., has been compelled, upon the recommendation of a medical board, to return to England. Sir R. England is the last of the general officers who left the United Kingdom in command of a division; he has remained at his post throughout the trying heats of Bulgaria, and the severities and hardships of the winter's campaign in the Crimea; and great credit is due to this officer for the constancy and untiring zeal

he has exhibited in carrying out arduous and difficult duties on all occasions. The casualties between the 30th ult. and the 2nd inst. are 12 rank and file, killed; 1 officer, 3 sergeants, 80 rank and file, wounded, including Lieut. W. T. E. Fosbery, 77th Foot, dangerously."

The correspondent of the *Times* gives a description of the present habitations of the soldiers in camp: "The habitations of the army are of three classes—wooden huts, huts or hovels (dating from last winter, and partly subterranean), and tents. Happy, at least at this season, is the man who possesses a good wooden hut with a plank flooring. Most of the large huts, however, are used as store-houses, or for other general purposes. The walls of the hovels (for such is the term that most correctly designates them) are usually three or four feet below ground and about as much above it, and are surmounted by gabled roofs, without which, in some of them, a tall man could hardly stand upright. These singular dwellings are, as may be supposed, damp and gloomy. They are entered by three or four steps cut in the earth, and usually covered with stones or planks. Here is one of which the entrance is so low that a man of average height must bend double to get in. It is considered rather a good hut, and its owners speak with gratitude, almost with enthusiasm, of the excellent shelter it afforded them in the trying times of last winter. It is eight or nine feet broad and about twelve in length. At one end a sort of embrasure admits light through the thick wall, composed of mud and shapeless masses of stone. Below this embrasure, is the bed, barely raised from the ground; on one side is a small niche in the wall used as a fire-place. The walls are tapestried with sail-cloth, horse blankets, and *mantas* that have come all the way from Catalonia and Valencia with the Spanish mules and muleteers, and are adorned with pictures cut from illustrated periodicals, and with numerous pipes, *bien culottées*—well blackened, that is to say, by the tobacco oil that has soaked through the porous clay. There is actually a chimney-piece—a thick board wrenched from some packing-case, the rusty nails still sticking in its edges—which supports a biscuit-box, tobacco, bottles in various stages of consumption, and other small comforts. Here is a rough tub, used for the inmates' ablutions, until scarcity of water caused the prohibition of such luxuries. Suspended from the homely tapestry are a sword, a pouch-belt, waterproof and leather leggings. A pair of tall boots are in one corner, and hard by the door—the lightest place—is a crazy table, with writing materials and sundries. A shelf has been contrived, and holds a few well-thumbed volumes. The heavy rain has flowed into the hut through the doorway up to the edge of the bed; the consequence is that the floor resembles a muddy road, in which you slip about and almost stick. A trifle, this, to Crimean campaigners. The roof does not leak, which is more than can be said of the roofs of many huts. The one I have described may be taken as a fair specimen of the class of edifice. Transported to England, and exhibited as the dwelling of an Esquimaux or American Indian, it would doubtless excite surprise and compassion, and people would wonder that even savages could exist in such dens—here cheerfully tenanted by very civilised persons. Huts and hovels are few in number compared with the tents, which, when carefully pitched, with a good gutter round them, make durable habitations for this time of year, although liable to be overthrown by very high winds. But against the cold, when the canvas crackles with the frost, and the icy breath of winter enters at every chink, they afford poor protection indeed. If we are to pass another winter before Sebastopol—I mean to say, if the higher powers consider it probable, or even possible that we shall do so—it is presumable that measures will be taken for the preservation of so costly a commodity as the British soldier. Seasoned veterans, who have survived the bitter sufferings of the winter of 1854-5, may be able to withstand the less severe hardships of that of 1855-6; but what do our rulers imagine will become of youthful recruits, in the year's worst season, on these inclement heights, unless provision be made for their comfort superior to any at present existing? Rations and raiment will, doubtless, not be deficient, but, as far as appearances yet go, proper shelter will."

Intelligence of a great victory, gained by the French and Sardinians, was received in London on the 17th instant, the battle having taken place the day before. The news was contained in telegraphic despatches from General Pelissier and General La Marmora.—General Pelissier wrote:—“Traktir Bridge, Aug. 16, 10 a.m.—For some days rumours of a pre-meditated attack on the part of the Russians had aroused our attention, and they carried out their project this morning at daybreak against our lines on the Tchernaya; but, despite the concentration of imposing masses collected during the night, the enemy was repulsed with great vigour by the divisions of General Herbillon, Camou, Fauchoux, and Morris. The Sardinians, placed on our right, fought valiantly. The principal effort of the enemy was directed against Traktir Bridge. The Russians left great number of dead there, and we made a great many prisoners. They were in full retreat on Mackenzie's Farm when our reserves were coming up, and these of our brave allies, especially the English cavalry. The enemy has received a severe check. Our losses, which are much less than those of the Russians, have not yet been accurately ascertained.”

General La Marmora said:—“Kadikoi, Aug. 16.—This morning the Russians, to the number of 50,000, attacked the lines on the Tchernaya. Our watchword was ‘King and country.’ The French despatches will say whether the Piedmontese were worthy to fight beside the French and English. They were very brave. General Montecuccio is dying. We have 200 men put hors de combat. The loss of the Russians is considerable.”

At the same time the following was received from General Simpson: “Aug. 16.—General Pelissier and I have decided on opening fire from the English and French batteries at dawn to-morrow morning.”

General Pelissier, in a despatch to the Minister of War, dated August 17, gives the following particulars:—“In the attack of yesterday the enemy came forward with five divisions, 6,000 horse and 20 batteries, determined to occupy the Tediouchine mountains. After passing the river at several points, they had brought up an immense accumulation of sapping tools, planks, mairiers, fascines, and ladders, all which they abandoned in their flight. According to its usual custom, our artillery fought bravely and with great success. An English battery position, on the Piedmontese hill, afforded very efficient assistance. The Russians left on the field at least 2,500 dead. Thirty-five of their officers and 1,620 soldiers are in our ambulances. Three Russian generals were killed. We have made besides 400 prisoners. Our loss consists of 181 dead and 810 wounded. Tixier, Darbois, Alpy, and Saint Remy are severely wounded; De Polhes and Barthé less severely, and Gagnier has only received a slight wound.”

In a further despatch, dated the evening of the 18th, General Pelissier says; “Prince Gortchakoff has asked of me an armistice to bury the dead left on this side of the Tchernaya. I have granted this. The losses of the enemy are greater than I at first thought. Lieut.-General Read has been killed. Protected by the continued fire of our artillery, the engineers' works are no longer annoyed by the enemy, and have gained camp ground.”

In another despatch dated the 19th inst., General Pelissier says: “It was necessary to continue the armistice demanded yesterday by the Russians from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. to-day, for them to carry away their dead. The nearest return we could make gives the following results:—Russians buried by the French 2,129, by the Russians, 1,200—total 3,329.”

Prince Gortchakoff, in a despatch dated the evening of the 16th, gives the following version of this affair:—“To-day, part of our troops crossed the Tchernaya, and attacked the heights called Tediouchine. Having encountered very considerable forces, we withdrew to the right bank, after an obstinate fight, and there awaited the advance of the enemy for four hours. As they did not move forward, we returned to our former position. The loss on both sides is considerable.”

The Russian General Read, whose death is reported, was a very distinguished officer, and a year ago was discharging the duties of imperial lieutenant of the Caucasian provinces, in the absence of Prince Woronzoff,

and before General Muravieff had been nominated his successor. The father of General Read, born at Montrose, was a civil engineer, who entered the service of the Emperor Alexander in early life, and settled in Russia, where his son, afterwards General Read, was born.

“Last night,” General Pelissier writes, dating 24th August, “we carried an ambuscade on the glacis of the Malakhoff; 500 Russians made a sortie to retake it, but were brilliantly repulsed with a loss of about 300 men. The work has been turned, and remains definitively ours.” The possession of this out-work will greatly facilitate the capture of the Malakhoff itself—the key of the position.

The accounts from the *Baltic* contain intelligence of the bombardment of Sweaborg by the allied squadrons, and the destruction of the arsenal with its magazines and storehouses. This fortress is in the Gulf of Finland, distant 163 miles from St. Petersburg. It is composed of seven rocky islands, and is situated about three miles and a half from Helsingfors. The works are stupendous. The walls are chiefly of hewn granite, covered with earth, rising in some places to a height of forty-eight feet. The batteries, which commence on a level with the water, and rise in tiers one above another, are mounted, it is alleged, with nearly a thousand guns. In Wolf's Island, the principal of the group, there is a dry dock, capable of containing eleven or twelve frigates, which has been completely hollowed out of solid rock, the length being 300 feet, breadth 200, and depth 14 feet. At one extremity of this dock is a basin 200 feet square, closed at each end with sluice gates, which serves for the entrance and exit of frigates, and for repairing and building ships. The stores and ammunition for the batteries are deposited in magazines, on the edge of the water. The harbour can contain seven ships of the line and a few frigates. The population of Helsingfors, which is the capital of the district, is 10,000, and of Sweaborg about 4000, the greater part of whom are tradesmen and merchants, who depend on supplying the garrison and fleet.

The particulars of this important achievement are minutely detailed in the despatches of the English and French admirals; but we shall extract the more condensed and graphic account given by the correspondent of the *Times*. “On the 7th of August, at 9.30 a.m., the fleet, consisting of 9 British line-of-battle ships, 13 steam-frigates and sloops, 16 mortar vessels, and an equal number of gunboats, sailed from Nargen, and after a run of five hours anchored at a distance of about 5000 yards from the fortress of Sweaborg. The same evening the French fleet joined, and immediately commenced throwing up a mortar battery on the island of Langörn, situated some 2000 yards to the north of the cluster of five islands which form the principal part of the fortress of Sweaborg. During the 8th both fleets were busily employed preparing for action; the mortar-vessels were towed into position, about 3700 yards from the fortress, with 400 fathoms each of cable to ‘haul and veer on,’ as circumstances might require. The line-of-battle ships remained in the same order they had at first anchored in. The steamers Magicienne, Vulture, and Euryalus took up a position in rear of the mortar-vessels, for the purpose of being ready to give them and the gunboats any assistance they might require. The Lightning and Locus were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to tow out any gun or mortar vessels that might be injured, or otherwise rendered incapable of remaining longer under fire; in fact, every possible arrangement having been made, which prudence and foresight could suggest, the signal was made from the flag-ship, at 7.15 in the morning of the 9th, ‘Gun and mortar vessels open fire with shell.’ At 7.30 a.m. the first mortar was fired, and taken up along the whole line, the gunboats running in to within 3000 yards, and getting their range. The enemy returned our fire very briskly with red-hot shot and shell, but, although their range was good, the damage inflicted was comparatively trifling, owing, principally, to the excellent handling of the gunboats and mortar-vessels, the former being continually on the move, and the latter hauling or veering on their 400 fathom cable, as soon as they found the Russian shot falling too close to be pleasant. At 10.20 the first

Russian magazine exploded, and a fire broke out in the arsenal. About noon a second magazine exploded; and at 12.15 a most terrific explosion took place, followed by a succession of minor ones. The force of this was so immense that a battery of guns *en barbette* was literally blown to pieces by it. At 12.49 more magazines exploded. At this time the dockyards, arsenal, barracks, all the government buildings, store-houses, &c., were burning furiously. The yards and poops of the line-of-battle ships were crowded with the excited seamen, who cheered vociferously after every explosion, as only British sailors know how to cheer. To add to this frightful din, the liners *Cornwallis* and *Hastings* and steam-frigate *Amphion* opened their broadsides at the same moment; and, as if to crown the whole, the *Arrogant*, *Cossack*, and *Cruiser* chimed in by commencing a heavy fire, with good effect, on a large body of troops which they chanced to espouse on a small island to the eastward of the fortress. The cannonade continued with little abatement up to 3 o'clock p.m., when the gunboat recall was hoisted. Several of the mortar-vessels were also found to be injured from the quick and incessant firing, and had to be brought out to undergo repairs; those, however, which were not damaged, still kept up their fire, in conjunction with the French mortar battery, until 10.30 p.m., at which hour the rocket-boats from the fleet went in and kept up their part of the performance until daylight. The scene during the night was grand beyond description: the whole of *Sweaborg* appeared one mass of flame, the rockets and shells adding not a little to the awful splendour of the fiery landscape. At 5.30 a.m. on the 10th, the fire again opened from our whole line, and continued throughout the day, at the end of which little appeared left to be done; all the mortars, French and English, were more or less injured. Some idea, however, of the services rendered by these vessels may be gathered from the fact that during the two days' bombardment not less than 1000 tons of iron were thrown into a space of about half a mile in diameter, and upwards of 100 tons of powder were expended. This, incredible as it may appear, applies to the English mortar-vessels alone, and does not include the quantity (which was equally large in proportion) used by our gallant allies on that occasion. On Friday night, the 10th inst., the rocket-boats again went in and played with great effect. On Saturday no firing took place, and Sunday was a day of rest. On that day everything was quiet and in repose; even the mighty deep bowed in reverence to a holy influence, and was still. The tolling of the bells at *Helsingfors* was distinctly to be heard; the dull and plaintive sounds, mingled with the strains of sacred music from our men-of-war, came floating over the calm waters, and offered strange but soothing contrast to the noise, turmoil, and excitement of the two preceding days. On Monday morning, the 13th instant, the two fleets got under way, and returned the same day to *Nargen*, having performed in an incredibly short space of time, with comparatively no loss, one of the most wonderful exploits recorded in modern times."

It is stated that neither the French nor English have lost a single man, and that a very few men were wounded, most of them slightly.

Operations of some importance have been performed by the English squadron in the *Sea of Azof*. Despatches from Commander Osborn, of the *Vesuvius*, forwarded by Sir Edmund Lyons, detail the proceedings of the squadron down to the 25th of July. On the 13th the squadron, which had been detained by bad weather, put to sea. On the 15th they destroyed forage and corn stacked behind *Berdiansk*, by firing shells over the town. On the 16th they attacked *Fort Petrovskoi*; driving out the garrison, and landing a party under Lieutenant Campion to complete the destruction of the works, gun-platforms, stores of forage and corn. He landed in the face of two battalions of infantry and two squadrons of cavalry, kept at a distance by the fire of the ships, and successfully executed his mission. On the same day, great quantities of forage and some fisheries were destroyed on the *White House Spit*. On the 18th, fisheries were destroyed on the *Crooked Spit* and *Glofira Spit*, in spite

of swarms of cavalry. "I learned from a Russian fisherman," says Commander *Craufurd*, "that the fish caught on *Crooked Spit* and cured there was immediately forwarded to *Simpferopol* for the use of the Crimean army; and I conclude that a very severe blow has been inflicted upon the enemy by the amount of property which was destroyed, including spars, timber, fish, nets, and boats—apparently the most extensive fishing establishment in the *Sea of Azof*—and, I am happy to say, without a casualty." Meanwhile, Lieutenant *Hewett* of the *Beagle* had landed at *Berdiansk*, and destroyed fish-stores and corn; and Commander *Rowley* of the *Curlew* had burnt the pontoon connecting *Genitchi* with the Spit of *Arabat*. "That the squadron has not been idle," writes Commander *Osborn* to Sir Edmund Lyons, "I trust this report will show; and, without entering more into details than I have done, I can assure you, Sir, that from *Genitchi* to *Taganrog*, and thence round to *Kamiskeva*, we have kept the coast in a state of constant alarm, and their troops incessantly moving. The good service done by the gunboats in this way has been very great. The total amount of provisions, corn, fisheries, forage, and boats destroyed, has been something enormous."

In his last despatch, dated July 25, Commander *Osborn* says: "Since my last letter I have fully succeeded in destroying, by means of submarine explosions, the four Russian steamers sunk in *Berdiansk Bay*; and as the enemy had, from the houses of the western suburb of *Berdiansk*, twice fired upon our people, whilst peaceably and unguardedly employed, I considered it right that such a dishonourable course, from a town which had been spared under the plea of being defenceless, should be severely punished, and the more so as *Berdiansk* had been treated with unusual leniency upon the occasion of our former visits. I therefore, on the 22nd of July, caused to be destroyed the western suburb, which had screened their riflemen, and succeeded in discovering and setting fire to no less than ten large granaries, filled with wheat, each averaging about 200 tons in capacity, and several flour mills, which have been employed night and day in grinding for the use of the Russians. The church and major portion of the town I spared, although nearly every house we searched contained grain in large quantities, and the whole place might be considered little else than a general granary. The dangerous service of landing in so large a town, with bodies of Cossacks threatening, was intrusted to Commander *Rowley*, Lambert, Lieutenant Hubert *Campion* (senior of this ship), Lieutenant *Hewett*, her majesty's steam-vessel *Beagle*, and Lieutenant *Marryat*, her majesty's steam-vessel *Cracker*; and the skill with which it was executed reflects the highest credit upon their zeal and judgment. The operations were admirably covered by the gunboats under Lieutenants *Grylls*, *Commerell*, and *Townsend*, and her majesty's ships *Vesuvius* and *Curlew*; the latter under charge of her zealous first lieutenant, C. J. *Rowley*. On the 24th July I rejoined Lieutenant *Horton*, of her majesty's steam-vessel *Ardent*. He, I found, had not been idle; and, with the assistance of the *Clinker*, Lieutenant *Snaithett*, and *Wrangler*, Lieutenant *Burgoyne*, very much damage had been done to the enemy from *Chenitich* to *Obitotchina Spit*, in the destruction of forage, fish, stores, and launches."

On the receipt of these despatches by the Admiralty, Commander *Sherard Osborn* has been promoted to the rank of Captain, and Lieutenant *Horton* to that of Commander.

The latest accounts of the *War in Asia* are contained in the following letter from *Ezernoum*, dated July 31, published in the *Moniteur*:—"The last advices received here from *Kars* are of July 24. On the 15th the Russians made a great demonstration against *Kars*, for the purpose of covering an enormous convoy of provisions on its way to their camp from *Alexandropol*. From that day to the 24th all has been quiet, only the town is more closely invested. The enemy's force consists of 72 battalions of infantry, one of riflemen, a battalion of the engineer corps, three regiments of

Dragoons, two of regular Cossacks, some Bashir-Bazouks of Shirvan, and Armenian militiamen, and 80 pieces of artillery—the whole commanded by 10 generals, and forming a total of from 35,000 to 40,000 men, posted around the town at a distance of three leagues, in four bodies; it is independent of the division which occupies Saghanli Dagh, and is fortifying itself at Unkiar-Douzi. The Turkish forces are divided into two corps, under the general command of the Mushir Vassif Pasha. The first corps, that of Kars, is formed of four divisions, namely:—1, the division of General Kmetty (Ismail Pasha, 4,500 strong; 2, that of Ismail Bey, of 3,000 men; 3, one of 4,000 men; and 4, another of 3,500 men. The second corps, commanded by Mchemet Pasha, Governor-General of Erzeroum, is composed of three divisions; that of Erzeroum, composed of 1,500 irregular troops, commanded by Tahir Pasha; that of Kupru-Keni, consisting of 10,000 irregulars, commanded by Veli Pasha; and that of Altı, 3,000 strong, under Ali Pasha.

Omer Pasha has been invested with the Order of the Bath. The ceremony took place at the British Embassy at Pera, on the 11th inst. Shortly after 1 o'clock, the outer gates of the palace were thrown open, and double lines of English and Turkish troops formed from that point to the principal entrance to the building. An hour later the celebrities invited to witness the ceremony began to arrive, amongst the first of whom were the high functionaries of the Porte, attended by a brilliant retinue of attendants. Then came the Sardinian and French ambassadors, with the members of their respective legations, and a few minutes later Omer Pasha himself, accompanied by a staff as gorgeous as military decorations and gold lace could make it. The ceremony began by an address to the illustrious soldier, signifying the distinguished sense entertained by our sovereign of his high merits and important services, to which Omer Pasha replied in a speech expressive of his obligation for the brilliant honour he was about to receive, and of the profound feelings of gratitude and admiration with which he was filled towards her Majesty. A secretary of the legation read aloud the royal command, which conferred on the Sirdar-Ekrem the Grand Cordon of the British Order of the Bath; after which Lord Stratford invested the Ottoman chief with the red ribbon and its brilliant appendages, and dubbed him with all set ceremony a true and proper knight. A grand dinner in the evening wound up the proceedings of the day.

Colonel Henry Cobbe, commanding the 4th King's Own Regiment, has died from the effects of wounds received on the 18th of June. He commanded in the trenches of the left attack while the assault was made against the Redan on the one side, and by the second brigade of the third division, under Major-General Eyre, against the works to the left of the south harbour on the other side. Colonel Cobbe's regiment belonged to the first brigade of the third division, and was in reserve. He received two wounds—one in the right arm, the other in the back of the neck, and both from musket balls. The wound in the arm he received while giving some directions in one of the advanced approaches. He subsequently, to avoid the impediment of a number of men who were in the trench along which he was passing, went on the open ground far enough to expose himself to view above the parapet, and thus received the second shot at the back of the neck. Neither wound was in itself dangerous, but Colonel Cobbe's constitution had suffered severely from long service in the 2nd West India Regiment, and he had not strength enough to resist the effects of the fever which followed the injuries. He was highly respected in his regiment, and was well known as an active officer and a man of daring courage.

The death of Captain Arthur Layard, of the 38th regiment, a very intelligent and active officer, and brother to the celebrated Assyrian explorer and politician, has been announced. He had been attacked by dysentery, and early in the present month was recommended by a medical board to leave for England, but was too weak to bear the journey. His loss will be deeply felt in his regiment, where he has long been

conspicuous on account of his talents, and a general favorite from his many social qualities. For some time past he has been acting in the Quarter-master General's department, and attached to the Second Division. He was selected for the appointment without solicitation. Captain Layard was nearly at the head of the list of captains in his regiment at the time of his decease.

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 11th instant, gives a most unfavourable report of the Turkish troops before Sebastopol. These troops, he says, "are under the command of Osman Pasha, the illustrious old warrior who commanded the Ottoman contingent at Balaklava last winter. This officer not only has not the smallest idea of making any known earthly use of any body of men, great or small, but is as finished a specimen of the ignorant and brutal old Pasha as I have yet met with. His darling weakness, which forms so prominent a feature in his character as to excite the remarks even of his brother officers, would in England bring him under the operation of some such penalty as transportation for life." As a specimen of the conduct of these Turkish soldiers, the writer relates the following incident:—"Close to the seashore, in a secluded glen, about three miles from where I write, there is a farm-house, which until lately was occupied by a French family named Michel. It consisted of the father, the intendant of Count Pironski, who has a country-house beyond Baidar, his two grown-up daughters, one of them married, and his wife, an old and feeble woman. Relying upon their nationality as a protection, they remained quietly here after the Russians had retired, and the French outposts had occupied the neighbouring valley. At last the Turks marched down from Tchioulion, and being afraid to go down towards Baidar, their outposts, under the command of Ali Pasha, remained on the heights overlooking the valley: Omer Pasha being farther back towards Miskonia. Some of the Turkish soldiers, in their rambles in the neighbourhood, went down to Laspé, entered the farm-house, seated themselves, and demanded food and drink, which were at once supplied. Having finished their repast, one of them extended his hand towards M. Michel, and signified that he wanted 'magyars'—which being the Turkish name for Austrian ducats, they take to be likewise a correct denomination of all French coin of any kind whatsoever. The Frenchman, thinking they took him for a Hungarian, endeavoured to explain that he was French, and I have no doubt he succeeded; but a stop was soon put to all parley, by their getting up, tearing his watch from his pocket, wrenching the earrings from his daughter's ears, and then making a minute search with the grossest brutality of the persons of the three women, having previously knocked the father down with the stock of a musket. It is further alleged that they committed the last of outrages upon the females; but this does not appear in the report addressed by M. Michel to General Pelissier, as it is naturally one of those things which no family would care to publish, even if true. General Pelissier forwarded the complaint to Omer Pasha, who not only took no measures to detect the delinquents, which could have been effected in five minutes, by drawing up Ali Pasha's brigade in line, but pretended to look upon it as an insult to his army devised by the French, and declared that the crime must have been committed by Frenchmen disguised as Turks. All comment on this would be absurd."

The *Overland Mail* has brought advices from Calcutta to the 4th, and from Bombay to the 10th of July. Tranquillity prevails in every part of India. The most important intelligence relates to the mission which Major Phayre was about to undertake to Ava. It seems that the story about the revolution at Ava was totally incorrect. The king remains on the throne, and as friendly as ever to Europeans. Major Phayre proceeds as our envoy, with Captain Yule, a very eminent engineer officer, as his secretary. Captain Rennie, of the Indian navy, who accompanies the mission, with Lieutenant Heathcote as his assistant, will survey the Irrawaddy, and report on its navigation.

Major Allen, of the Madras service, will report on military matters. Dr. Forsyth will make observations and furnish a report on the physical geography of the country. Professor Oldham, who has been directed to join the mission, will report on the geological features, military resources, and coal-mines of that region; and Mr. Grant, an eminent artist, will take sketches of the most interesting objects and localities. The mission will be in every respect complete, and we shall probably have a more correct knowledge of the country on the Upper Irrawaddy than we have of many provinces which have been half a century in our own possession.

The most important political intelligence from France relates to the loan. The facility with which it has been accomplished has excited general surprise. The sum required was 30,000,000*l.*; the sum subscribed is no less than 144,000,000*l.* The number of individual subscribers is 310,000; and a third of the sum actually required has been subscribed in small sums, of fifty francs Rente, or a capital not exceeding 50*l.* As a tenth part of the whole sum tendered by subscription was at once deposited by the public, no less than 14,000,000*l.* were paid into the Bank of France. But as it is the policy of the government to accept all tenders for less than 50 francs Rente in full, and to complete the loan by a rateable proportion on the larger sums, a large portion of the deposit will be returned. Nearly 40,000,000*l.* were subscribed in the departments; and 24,000,000*l.* in foreign countries.

At Naples, the administration of the government is getting more and more tyrannical. A merchant of the city who was guilty of some disrespectful observations upon the police and of resisting its agents—an offence for which the severest sentence in any other country would have been forty-eight hours' imprisonment—was lately sentenced to receive "100 blows from a stick."

On the 22d July, De Cesare, lately deputy to the Neapolitan parliament, died, and a crowd of friends publicly attended his funeral. The police were furious. The canon who read the service, and several noblemen and gentlemen who followed the coffin, were banished from Naples, and others from their estates. The punishment of the stick is in vigorous operation.

"The present," says a correspondent of the *Times*, "is a time in which the most savage and brutal excesses are committed; the common humanities of life are violated, the privacy of families invaded; men are treated like beasts, imprisoned, flogged, and knocked down in the street, whence they are hurried off to a hospital and thence to prison, and my great fear is that the people may be goaded into acts which the more prudent do all in their power to prevent. I sometimes ask myself, too, are the police authorities secret enemies of the King, attempting to undermine his power? If so, they are doing their bidding well."

Advices from Madeira give an unsatisfactory account of the prospects of that island. The vine, it is said, may now be considered as almost completely gone. The disease continues, and more than half the vines are dead and rooted out. No wine has been made for three years, and there will be none this. Attempts are in progress to introduce the sugarcane as a substitute for the vine, but it is believed by many that only the lower grounds suit it, and that it will be impossible to compete in point of price with Brazil, Cuba, or the West Indies.

The advices from the *United States* are to the 16th inst.

At Louisville election, which took place on the 7th, there were great riots. There were several persons shot, and twelve houses burnt.

The Mormons in the valley of the Great Salt Lake were anticipating a famine. All the crops were being devoured by insects, and flour was very scarce at the price of six dollars per 100 lbs. A person of the name of Young, who has commenced lectures among the Mormons, advises his brethren to take short excursions throughout the country with their families. This Mormon acknowledges to the possession of ninety wives and a multitude of children.

At Buffalo, persons charged with enlisting recruits for the British Foreign Legion had been committed to prison in default of bail.

Five men were Drowned in Niagara Falls. They were rowing a boat, when one of the oars snapped, leaving them helpless. The boat was carried down the stream into the whirlpool and broken to pieces.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

NEW books are never abundant in the summer vacation, but within our remembrance we can recall no list so scanty as that of the past month. The Poet Laureate has published *Maud* and other Poems; the war-letters of the correspondent of the *Times* have been republished in a volume, with the title of *The War from the Landing at Gallipoli to the Death of Lord Raglan*; Mr. Forrester has filled a portion of the Travellers' Library with *Rambles in Norway*; Mr. Bell has issued the first volume of an edition of Butler in his Annotated English Poets; the first volume of a collected edition of Professor Wilson's works, being also the first volume of his republished and annotated *Noctes Ambrosiane*, has appeared under the editorship of Professor Ferrier; Mr. Ernest Jones has published a small volume of poems, not political, entitled *The Battle Day, and other Poems*; Dr. Neil Arnott has published the result of his researches into various means, old and new, of obtaining healthful warmth and ventilation, in a volume he entitles *The Smokeless Fire Place*; Professor Pillans has published *First Steps in Classical Geography*, and Doctor Macaulay an enlarged edition of his *Dictionary of Medicine for Popular Use*; Mr. Charles Duncan has described very amply, in two volumes, the disastrous incidents of the late Campaign with the Turks in Asia; Mr. Martin has translated, from the French of M. Guizot, an essay on the *Married Life of Lady Rachael Russell*; Lieut. W. D. Arnold has collected some essays on the *Palace at Westminster and other Historical Sketches*; a practical treatise, with a number of curious specimens of paper, has been published

upon *Paper and Paper-Making, Ancient and Modern*, by Mr. Richard Herring, to which Mr. Croly prefixes an introduction; the author of "IX Poems by V." has written *Paul Ferrall, a Tale*; the Ilakluyt Society has issued a curious *Collection of Documents on Spitzbergen and Greenland*; Mr. Leone Levi has illustrated in a brief treatise *The Law of Nations and Nations as Affected by Divine Law*; Mr. James Heywood has translated, from the German of Peter Van Bohlen, that remarkable piece of biblical criticism, *The Introduction to the Book of Genesis, with a Commentary on the opening portion*; Colonel Sabine has superintended a translation of *Meteorological Essays by Francois Arago*, with an introduction by Alexander Von Humboldt, which forms the first complete portion of the works of the great astronomer; The Roving Englishman has published a small volume on *Embassies and Foreign Courts*, which comprises a popular illustration and history of diplomacy; the French edition of the very interesting *Memoir and Journal of Lieut. Bellot* has been translated, and published in English; among the additions to Mr. Bohn's various libraries has been a new translation from the lately published and only correct French text, of the *Heptameron of Margaret of Navarre*, a new translation by Mr. Bayley, of *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*, and a selection of scenes and incidents from *Beaumont and Fletcher* with an introduction by Leigh Hunt. With which, and the mention of a new novel by Mrs. Trollope called *Gertude, or Family Pride*, our list of the leading publications of the month must close.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 18th inst., £16,116,978.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stnd., per oz. £3 17 10½	Silver bars, stnd. per oz. 5 13
Do., dust, " 3 16 0	Mexican dollars, " 4 11½

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris..... 0·38 prem.	New York..... 0·42 disct.
Hamburg..... 0·6 prem.	

Bank Rate of Discount, 4 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	91½	90½	91½
Three per Cent. Reduced	92½	91½	92
New Three per Cents	92	92½	92½
Long Annuitics, Jan., 1860	4½	4	4½
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	215½	214	215½
Exchequer Bills, March.	24	14	23
India Bonds	34	28	26-30

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	161½	98½	98½	348,397
11·6·3	Blackwall	7½	7½	7½	37,662
100	Caledonian	69½	62½	62½	312,222
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	57½	55	55	984,838
20	Eastern Counties	11½	11½	11½	593,511
100	Gt. Sm. & Wn. (Irel.)	107	101½	106	167,588
100	Great Northern	90½	89½	90½	527,919
100	Great Western	66	55½	56½	675,924
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	81½	80½	83½	540,817
100	London & N. Westn.	98½	95½	95½	1,476,086
100	London & S. Westn.	80½	85	85	380,700
100	Midland	72½	60½	71½	704,329
100	South-East. & Dover	62½	60½	62½	441,630

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.	RAILWAYS.
Belgian 4½ per cent., 96	East Belgian Junct., 2
Brazilian 5 per cent., 102	Great W. of Canada, 2½
Chilian 6 per cent., 104	Great Luxembourg, 3½
Danish 5 per cent., 100-3	Northern of France, 3½
Dutch 2½ per cent., 64-2	Norwegian Trunk Pref., 8½
Dutch 4 p. cent. cert., 4·61	Paris and Orleans, 4½
Mexican 3 per cent., 21½	Paris and Lyons, 4½
Peruvian 3 per cent., 78½	Rouen and Rouen, 5½
Portuguese 4 per cent., 44-6	Rouen and Havre, 2½
Russian 5 per cent., 101	West Flanders, 4
Spanish 3 per cent., 85½	West of France, 30½
Sardinian 5 per cent., 86	

MINES.

Linares	81	Quartz Rock	4·8
Nouveau Monde	4·8	St. John Del Rey	20

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.	BANKS.
Australian	14
Colonial Gold	3½
Great Nugget	2½
Port Phillip	2½
South Australian	2·3

RAILWAYS.

Bombay and Baroda	5½	STEAM COMPANIES.
East Indian	24	Australasian Pacific
Do., Extension	21	Australian Royal Mail
Indian Peninsula	53	Eastern Steam Navig.
Madras	19½	General Screw St. Ship

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural	30½	North Brit. Australian	3·1
Van Diemen's Land	13½	Peel River Land	2½
South Australian Land	37½	Scottish Austr. Invest.	1½

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
July 21	76 4	34 8	23 5	45 2	46 0	42 10
— 28	77 7	34 8	21 1	43 1	46 4	42 4
Aug. 4	78 2	35 0	23 11	46 11	46 11	42 5
— 11	77 7	34 8	29 1	47 2	47 3	43 1
— 18	72 8	36 11	31 3	47 2

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	65 to 72	Hay	per load	5 to 6	to 5 to 15	
Malting Barley	31 to 35	Clover	"	5 0	8 0	
Oats, best,	27 to 30	Straw	"	1	6 1	10
Wheat, White,	60 to 50	Flour—				

Town made, per skd. 65 to 70
Country household 55 to 58
American, per bushel 38 to 45

Indian Corn, per qr. 47 to 49

CATTLE—

Beasts, per st. 3 10 to 5 4

Calves 4 0 to 5 0 | 0 | | | | |Sheep 3 6 to 5 0 | | | | | |Pigs 3 6 to 4 6 | | | | | |

Wool, per lb.—

South Downs, 1 0 to 1 2

Kentish flocks, 2 1 to 2 3

German Prima, 3 0 to 3 4

Australian 1 3 to 2 4 | | | | | |Cape 1 3 to 1 11 | | | | | |Spanish 1 3 to 1 10 | | | | | |

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 126L

Iron, Pigs, 4L. 15s. to 5L. 0s.

Rails, 7L. 5s. Lead, English

Pig, 23L. Steel, Swedish Keg, 19L.

19L. to 19L. Tin, English

block, 12L. Brass, 12L. ;

Spelter, 23L. ; Quicksilver, per

lb. 1s. 10d.

PROVISIONS.

BACON, per cwt.—Irish, 64s. to 78s.; American, 58s. to 62s.

BEEF—Mid. to prime, per lb., 3s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; Irish India, per tr., 160s.; Hambo', 170s.; American, 140s. to 150s.

BUTTER—Dorset, per cwt., 86s. to 90s.; Irish, 78s. 4d.; Dutch, 98s. to 100s.

CHEESE—Cheshire, per cwt., 72s. to 84s.; Wilshire, 62s. to 78s.; Dutch, 58s. to 60s.

HAMS—York, 81s. to 100s.; Irish, 70s. to 78s.; Westphalia, 74s. to 78s.

MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per lb., 3s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.

POTATOES, per ton, Scotch reds, 5s. to 10s.; Bedf. Regts., 10s. to 130s.

PORK, per 8 lb., 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.

VEAL, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.

LAMB, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.

EMIGRATION RECORD.
DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
To June 30	38,300	10,699	47,320	1,148	102,407
July	4,698	1,781	6,875	315	13,669
Total to July 31	42,998	12,480	54,205	1,433	116,076

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£35 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £22	£2 10s to £3 10s
Sydney	40 — 65	22 — 35	18 — 25	2 2s 5 — 2 10s
Adelaide	36 — 64	22 — 35	15 — 20	2 5 — 2 10s
Hobart Tn.	36 — 65	22 — 32	15 — 20	2 5 — 2 10s

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH AUGUST TO THE 27TH SEPTEMBER.

{ PRICE 2d.
{ STAMPED 3d.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM has taken occasion, on the opening of a small railway near his residence of Netherby, to deliver his sentiments on the subject of *Peace and War*. After going through the form of turning the first sod, he addressed an assemblage of the neighbouring country gentlemen and others. He began with an allusion to the circumstances under which the citizens of England continue those great works that in other countries have been left to potentates; expressing his gratification at having been called to the duty "amid the din of war"; amid "the profligate and fruitless expenditure of millions of public money; amid the grievances, the disasters, the death, the sickness, the wounds, the groans of thousands of our fellow creatures." He was rejoiced that at such an eventful moment efforts of this kind are not suspended; and although other works have been attended with some risk and doubt, in this case all doubts had been tested by the minutest examination of the most competent authorities. The ceremony was followed by a dinner, in the course of which Sir James again alluded to the war. "I see the question constantly asked—a question which you cannot fail to divine, seeing that it has been so recently and frequently put—"What would have been the conduct of Sir Robert Peel in existing circumstances were he now alive?" Permit me to say, that this is a fruitless question—a needless and unproductive speculation. It is hard to say what in present circumstances would have been his conduct; but time has not abated my sorrow for his loss. I feel every day more and more the loss of his friendship. I regret every day the absence of that advice on which I so much relied—that advice which was ever dictated by the soundest sense, by the warmest sympathy with the interests and feelings of the people of this country, whom he served with constant fidelity, and whose happiness, prosperity, and welfare it was the object of his life to promote. Gentlemen, I cannot tell you, although perhaps, without vain boasting I may say that I enjoyed to a great extent, to the last moment of his life, his confidence—I cannot pretend to say what in the varying circumstances of the present moment might be his position. I can, however, look back to what was his past conduct; and, recollecting what that past conduct was, I can truly tell you, that in reference to the past, it is the proudest recollection of my public life that I was associated with him and enjoyed his confidence for the short remainder of that public life. It will be my endeavour to act in conformity with the principles he enunciated, and with the view I know he took of what was conducive to the prosperity of this country. Of all things he was the maintainer of peace; he was the promoter of constitutional and progressive reform; he was the great defender and champion of commerce; he was the guardian of the manufacturing interests of this country, from which interest he sprung, and evinced the utmost solicitude for its welfare; and if for a moment a cloud passed over his memory on the part of the agricultural interest, yet now I think the time has arrived when I may safely appeal to those around me to say whether he was not the agriculturist's friend—whether he inflicted any lasting injury upon that interest by his deep conviction that commerce, manufacture, and agriculture, were identical and inseparable. These were the principles of my late lamented friend—principles which to the last moment of my life will

actuate my conduct. I regret the loss we have sustained; but when I am asked what would have been the conduct of Sir Robert Peel in the present crisis, I will answer, that for the remainder of my public life I will endeavour to give effect to the view I take of his principles." Mr. James, a neighbouring country gentleman, in proposing the toast, "Agriculture, Manufactures, Commerce," made some comments on Sir James Graham's speech. He agreed in the desire for the restoration of peace; but the question was, how was that desirable object to be effected? He did not know what the opinion of Sir Robert Peel would have been now. He knew that Sir Robert changed his opinion upon the question of the corn-laws and other subjects, and, notwithstanding Sir James Graham laid "the flatteringunction to his soul," it was perhaps not quite so certain that had he been alive Sir Robert would have entertained the same views as the right honourable baronet present upon the question of peace and war. If he might venture to give his humble opinion upon the subject, he should say there was but one way in which peace could be safely, honourably, and with the least possibility of success, durably obtained. There was but one way of accomplishing this object, and that was by crippling the resources and humbling the pride of Russia, by crippling her resources and humbling the pride of her insolent rulers. Mr. James's remarks were received with loud and reiterated cheers.

An address having been presented on the 14th inst. to Lord Palmerston, on his first visit to Melbourne in Derbyshire since his accession to office, his lordship, in reply, spoke as follows on the subject of the *War*. His address was received by a numerous assemblage with great enthusiasm. "It was true," he said, "that the war was at first encumbered by great difficulties. This country had for a great length of time been happily enjoying the tranquillity and repose of peace; and it would easily be supposed that when suddenly called upon to send a large fleet and an army to the other side of the globe, to compete with an enemy fully prepared for any emergency—an enemy who, in time of peace had kept up a war department upon a most gigantic scale, and had been incessant in his endeavours to meet any opposition to his schemes of aggrandisement that might arise,—it might readily be supposed that many difficulties would supervene and much suffering and privation be endured. The last few months had, however, set all these matters right; and he was happy to say that the last accounts received showed that never was an army in a better physical condition, or more inspired by a noble and gallant spirit, or more prepared for any and every emergency as the course of events might give rise to. The other day he had the pleasure of seeing an eminent medical man, and one of the staff of civilians who had been sent to the Crimea to inspect the hospitals and examine into the physical condition of the army. That eminent man stated that the hospitals were in the most admirable condition—that, in fact, they might almost be regarded as a model for the hospitals in London—that the troops enjoyed every comfort compatible with a military campaign, and, indeed, were in as good a condition as if they were in a peace establishment at home. Well, we have now a great triumph. We have struck a mortal blow at an enemy whose aggressive policy threatened the whole world, and particularly the interests of this

country. Sebastopol has succumbed to the valour of the allies, and right has thus far triumphed over wrong. It cannot be expected that great struggles can be carried on without great loss on both sides. We have sustained great losses, but it is a consolation to those who have lost relatives and friends in this contest, in support of liberty against despotism, that their names will be enrolled in the annals of fame, and will be associated with the imperishable glories of their country. But great as our losses are, lamentable as all feel them to be, we know that the losses of the enemy are infinitely greater; and though the war has been undoubtedly attended with losses and privations on our part, if we give credit to the information derived from various sources, we have the satisfaction of knowing that those losses and those privations are surpassed in magnitude by those against whom we are patriotically contending. And now one word with regard to the future. Final success must attend our arms. Our security for that arises in the undaunted valour of our troops and those of our allies. We have a security also in the good faith of the Emperor of the French, who is with us heart and soul in this contest. We have an additional security in the alliance of the kingdom of Sardinia, which is not so great, territorially, as either France or England, yet history reminds us that small states have played an important stake in the world, and have exercised no inconsiderable influence on its destinies. We remember the important part played by Holland, by Venice, by Genoa—smaller states, territorially, than the kingdom of Sardinia; and therefore, not despising the lessons of history, but, on the other hand, taking courage from the fact of this Sardinian alliance, we say that, while the compact is highly honourable to Sardinia, it is of this additional importance, that it has formed itself into a league against tyranny. Well, then, with this prospect before us—with the valour of our troops in union with the troops of the Emperor of France—nations that have laid aside ancient antagonisms, and who are now actuated by no other feelings but an honourable rivalry, as brothers in arms fighting for a common cause, bound together by the indissoluble ties of friendship, and acting in the truest spirit of good faith—and above and before all, relying upon the justice of our cause, it is impossible to believe that the war can be brought to any other conclusion than that which will secure to Europe safety against the future aggressions of Russia,—a peace that shall not only be honourable and satisfactory to the Allies, but which shall redound to the honour and the interests of the country, and justify the great sacrifices by which such a peace shall have been attained."

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A CASE of *Domestic Disagreement*, which excited considerable interest, was brought before the sitting magistrate at the Mansion-house on the 1st inst. Mr. May, the Dutch consul, attended, accompanied by a father and two daughters, natives of Amsterdam. He had, he said, received a telegraphic despatch from the official authorities at Amsterdam, stating that the daughter of a tradesman there had decamped to this country, and requesting him, as consul, to act *in loco parentis*, and to endeavour to induce the fugitive to return to her natural protector. He had made inquiries about her, and she had attended at his office, and her father having arrived in the next boat from Amsterdam to prosecute his claim to her services, the most judicious course appeared to be to submit the matter to the magistrate in the presence of all interested. The young lady, it was necessary to state, seemed to be willing upon the remonstrance made to her to return with her father; but her younger sister, who was married to a tradesman in London, upon presenting herself, made a complete revolution in the state of circumstances, and the two sisters clung to each other with an earnestness of affection indicating that separation would be intolerable to either. In answer to questions by Sir R. W. Carden, the married sister, who, although only 18 years of age, had been married at the age of 15, said her elder sister had just attained the age of 21; and, considering that she then became her own

mistress, determined to leave her father, under whose tyrannical authority it was no longer possible for her to live. The father said his elder daughter was, he feared, weak in intellect, and required most particularly the guidance of a parent; and, as he was her only parent, he was anxious to perform that duty. The elder girl, with a very intelligent look, shook her head at the imputation of weakness; and the younger indignantly denied that her sister was committing an act of imbecility in going to those from whom she would be sure of receiving nothing but love and tenderness, from one by whom she was considered and treated as a slave. Sir R. W. Carden: Is this young lady entitled to any money, or is there any gentleman concerned in this case? The Younger Sister: No. We don't want money. I know nothing of any gentleman. My sister's wish is to come and live with me and my husband, and she must not go back. I know how she has been treated, and she shall not suffer any more. Sir R. W. Carden, after having asked several questions of all parties, said: I acknowledge I have heard and seen quite enough to lead me to recommend the father to reconcile himself to the choice which his elder daughter, at the full age of 21, so decidedly makes. It appears to me that she is not likely to be unhappy or unprotected by the change. The sisters left the justice-room in ecstasy, the younger pushing the other before her, as it were, to prevent the father from putting a finger on her prize.

At the Thames Police Court on the 1st inst., John Jacobs, a well known Jew thief, was charged with *Burglary and Robbery*. The charge was proved; and it was further stated by constables that the prisoner had been several times within the last twenty years convicted before Mr. Serjeant Adams for robberies and burglaries. Mr. Ingham intimated his intention of committing the accused for trial, on which the prisoner exclaimed, Oh, Sir, send me to the Central Criminal Court, where I shall have a fair trial. Mr. Ingham: No, I shall send you for trial at the Clerkenwell Sessions. Prisoner: I would rather not go before Serjeant Adams. Mr. Ingham: I had rather you should, as he knows you so well. Prisoner: Before old Adams? Why, old Serjeant Adams convicts everybody. The officers get behind his chair and whisper to him, and earwig him. (Laughter.) Why, old Adams would convict his own mother. (Renewed laughter.) Mr. Ingham: Notwithstanding your objection to Mr. Serjeant Adams, I shall send you before him once more. Prisoner: The devil you will; then I shall plead guilty at once. (Laughter.) The prisoner was committed for trial.

William Cooper, a plate-layer on the Midland Railway, has been committed by the Chesterfield magistrates for a diabolical attempt to *Upset a Train*. He was seen meddling with a rail near the town; when two other servants of the Company came up they found that he had taken out several "keys" which fasten the rails to the sleepers: a mailtrain came up at the moment; but fortunately, though going fast, it went safely along the loosened rails. Cooper said he "wanted to knock a joint out": after the train had passed, he added—"I have done nothing; I only wish I had; but it has to be done." The villain's motive was this—he had a quarrel with the "ganger"; if an "accident" occurred from a rail's being loose, blame would fall on the ganger; and so the lives of many persons were to be imperilled to obtain revenge on the superior officer. Cooper pleaded intoxication; but he was not believed.

On the 1st inst., a Mr. Grinburn, a linen-draper in Spitalfields, appeared at the Worship-street Police Court to answer to complaint of Julia Isaacson, a *Poor Scamstress whom he had Grossly Maltreated*. The woman had been occasionally employed by him, and when she ceased to work for him he was indebted to her in the sum of fifteen pence. For two months she continued to make applications to him for payment of this paltry sum, but in vain. On applying for the last time, she was once more told to "call again." To her remonstrances that she had worked hard for the money, and was much in need of it, Grinburn replied by seizing hold of her, and violently tried to eject her from his shop. One of his workmen—Abraham Lazarus—endeavoured to stifle her cries by placing his hand upon her mouth. They continued thus to maltreat her, not

withstanding the threats of an indignant crowd, until a policeman interfered and rescued her. Her clothes were torn and her body bruised in the scuffle: and when she reached home she was obliged to take herself to bed and send for a surgeon. Her assailants, when brought before the magistrate, did not attempt to deny that the money she claimed was due, or that it had been withheld from her for two months. They only alleged that she had been "civilly requested" to call for it on the Saturday, and had refused to quit the place. The magistrate imposed a fine of 10/- on each of the delinquents—one half to be paid to the poor woman—with three months of hard labour in the house of correction in default of payment.

The village of Cudham, near Bromley in Kent, has been the scene of a frightful *Murder*. Bagley, a labourer, left his wife and very aged mother in his cottage in the morning: on returning home in the evening with his son, he found the door fastened: when he had forced an entrance he discovered his wife a corpse, and his mother insensible, both having been beaten on the head with a pair of tongs. The cottage had been plundered. Suspicion has fallen on two men, who are in custody. One of them, Robert Paling, a convicted burglar, was arrested near Bristol. He was examined at Bromley on the 6th inst. The discovery of the murder was related; and some witnesses expressed their conviction that Paling was the man they saw running away from the direction of Bagley's cottage early on the morning of the murder. Bagley's son identified some clothes found in Paling's possession as his property. Paling showed great self-possession and considerable acuteness in the cross-examination of the witnesses. He was remanded, and has subsequently been committed for trial. Old Mrs. Bagley is recovering, and may be able to identify the assassin. The other man in custody is Clarke, a native of Hayling Island. He was seized at Havant. Nothing suspicious was found on him.

A young man, son of Dr. Payne of Nottingham, has committed *Suicide* in a singular way: while travelling alone in a railway-carriage, between Nottingham and Derby, he hanged himself, by a neckerchief, to the ventilator over the door.

At the Preston Town-hall on the 4th inst., three military officers, named A. G. Onslow, J. Conroy, and Hopton S. Stewart, were fined 40s. and costs, and severely reprimanded by the Bench for *Smashing Street-lamps* by throwing rabbits against them. The defendants, who, it is said, had been tippling freely, pleaded guilty to the charge.

Mr. Mathew Wood, of the General Post-office, has committed *Suicide* under very distressing circumstances. He held a lucrative office in the mail department of the Post-office; the head office became vacant; he was allowed six months' probation to ascertain his fitness for the position, and he soon became conscious that he was not equal to the onerous duties. He grew desponding, and hinted that it must be "success or prussic acid." At the end of the period of probation he was informed that he had not been appointed. He went home, and swallowed an enormous quantity of prussic acid—a poison which he had been using for photographic purposes. The Coroner's inquest returned a verdict of "Insanity."

On the morning of the 8th instant a most singular act of *Suicide* was committed by Mr. Hall, pawnbroker, of Union street, Middlesex hospital. It appears that, shortly after the shop was opened, one of the young men having occasion to bring into requisition that portion of a pawnbroker's premises known in common parlance as "the spout," was astonished to find that some pledges which had been thrown down for a customer, who was waiting to take them out, did not reach their destination at the bottom, and, on investigation, it was discovered that the cause of the stoppage was the body of the employer, who was found suspended in the centre by the neck, from the cord employed in pulling up parcels from the shop to the warehouse. Medical aid was procured, but the deceased had ceased to exist. Mr. Hall was of an exceedingly sedate and scientific turn of mind, and no cause is assigned for his committal of the deed.

A young man named Thomas Tutton was brought before the magistrates of Bath on the 8th instant, on the charge of *Poisoning his Father*. He had surrendered himself to the police at Dublin. The witnesses were a female servant, Mr. Harries, the family medical attendant, and a Dublin constable. The servant described how Mr. Tutton senior had been seized with sickness after taking beer and potatoes from the hands of his son, and detailed circumstances of a suspicious nature. Mr. Harries deposed that he had detected white arsenic in the ejecta from Mr. Tutton's stomach, and on the different utensils in which the fried potatoes had been deposited. The Policeman stated that young Tutton denied his crime; he had surrendered because of the accusations in the newspapers. The prisoner cross-examined the witnesses himself. He was remanded, and has been committed for trial.

In the Bristol Bankruptcy Court, on the 10th instant, judgment was given in the *Case of Thomas Wright Lawford*. This bankrupt failed for nearly 60,000/-, leaving behind assets furnishing to the creditors scarcely more than a shilling in the pound. He began life as clerk in the office of his uncle, Mr. Edward Lawford, late solicitor to the East India Company, now also a bankrupt living abroad. For eight years the nephew received a salary of 400/- a year from his uncle. At the termination of the period, Thomas Lawford went, on his uncle's recommendation, to practise at Carmarthen. Here his gains were small, and he tried his hand at farming; becoming at the same time agent for Lord Dynevor, and a tenant of his lands. For the agency he had received 300/- a-year from 1840 to 1849, yet in the latter year he was 12,000/- in debt. He had expended money on the farms he rented without having any lease; he had erected hot-houses to raise grapes for the London market; had engaged in a speculation for hatching chickens by steam, and even in a mining concern in Prussia. Being insolvent to the extent of 12,000/-, he began to borrow, raising loans at one time amounting in all to 80,000/- from insurance companies, and other loans to pay the costs and interest of the former. The cost of these loan transactions is set down at 25,000/- in five years. It appears that Mr. Edward Lawford, the uncle, then reputed to be worth 18,000/- a-year, took part in the loans. On one occasion he asked his nephew to appear as the borrower of a sum of money he wanted "to complete the purchase of an estate in Kent," the uncle figuring as the security. Subsequently Mr. Edward Lawford effected loans in his nephew's name, without consulting him, and all the money of the first loans went through his hands. By him the 80,000/- was reduced to 44,000/. The certificate was unopposed. The officers of the court were of opinion that Mr. Thomas Lawford is a person whose intentions were honest, and that his errors have been caused rather by an over-sanguine temper and extreme infirmity of judgment than by want of rectitude. The Court awarded a third-class certificate, suspended for twelve months without protection.

Three English directors of the Luxembourg Railway, Mr. John Ashwell, Sir William Magnay, and Mr. John Masterman, have been tried before the Tribunal of Correctional Police at Brussels, on the charge of *Swindling the Shareholders*. Mr. Ashwell alone surrendered to be tried; the other gentlemen were tried "by default." The alleged offences were, misappropriating thousands of shares and a sum of 35,750 francs which had been intrusted to the accused for "secret purposes"—that is, to bribe people to support the claims of the railway; these shares and money, it is said, had been nearly all retained by the accused for their own use, and they had received interest on the shares; the cash and shares were mentioned in the books as disposed of for "purchases of land," or for "engineering and law expenses." In his defence, Mr. Ashwell avowed that he had employed most of the shares in bribes, retaining some for future use; he mentioned some people he had bribed; he received the interest for their behoof. The money he had partly spent for the company; the balance he had returned to the cashier. Lastly, he showed that all he had done had been approved of the directors, and sanctioned by the shareholders at their general meeting; also, that

when complaints had been made by some of the shareholders, a special committee was appointed to examine into the whole matter, and that it had approved of what had been done. On behalf of Sir William Magnay and Mr. Masterman no defence whatever was offered. In the course of the proceedings, it was stated that what the defendants were accused of doing was constantly done in England,—namely, on the formation of a railway company, to distribute shares or money amongst the owners of land through which the line is to pass, and to persons who might be in a position in any way to promote its interests; and it was added, that the cost of such distribution was always entered on the accounts as "Parliamentary expenses." The Tribunal decided, that as the acts of Mr. Ashwell which were complained of, took place more than three years ago, they were covered by prescription, and that the complaint against Sir William Magnay and Mr. Masterman was not sufficiently proved. It consequently dismissed the complaint.

Mr. Thomas Millar, assistant schoolmaster of her Majesty's ship Wizard, a young man of six-and-twenty, committed *Suicide*. He had been accused of purloining the clothes of the boys under his charge, and, on the morning of the distressing occurrence he was noticed, while standing on the deck of the Wizard, to suddenly seize four six pound shots, place them in his coat pockets, and, before any one could prevent him, jumped overboard. He immediately sank, and although the boats promptly put out to his assistance, all traces of his body had disappeared. A letter was found from the deceased, addressed to his wife, in which he intimated that he was about to commit suicide, rather than face the charge made against him.

Henry Coape a person of gentlemanly appearance, was tried, at the Central Criminal Court, for *Conspiring by False Pretences* with one King to obtain 4000*l.* from Henry Porter Smith. King had fled the country. Mr. Coape had extensive property in Essex left him by his father; but he soon got embarrassed, from expensive experiments in farming, sold part of his property, and mortgaged the rest for 16,000*l.* King wanted to raise a loan of 8000*l.*, and induced Coape, his relation, to consent to be his security. Through Mr. Kirby, "managing director," of the Albert Insurance Company, an arrangement was made by which Mr. Smith was to lend 4000*l.*, and Sir John Wilson a second 4000*l.*, the security being the estates, some of which Coape had already sold, while the others were mortgaged. The affair was conducted with suspicious secrecy by Mr. Kirby, and with disgraceful want of care in inquiring about the nature of the security; if the necessary inquiries had been made it would have appeared that Mr. Coape no longer possessed the estates specified, and that the rest were deeply mortgaged. However, the money was advanced, the deeds were executed, Kirby and others got rich pickings, a loan advanced by the Albert Company was repaid, King got the balance, and quickly disappeared. Presently, Mr. Coape appears as an insolvent, and the lenders find that their security is imperfect. It came out during the trial that from the sale of the mortgaged estates the lenders will realise 6000*l.*, and will have a claim on other funds. The jury found that the charge had not been made out, and returned a verdict of "Not guilty;" and the Foreman added, that it was the opinion of the jury that the prosecution was a most infamous and unnecessary one. The Recorder observed, that, without saying anything upon the subject of the nature of the prosecution, he could not help observing that if anything could open the eyes of young men of fortune, who were desirous of raising money, to the manner in which they were plundered by offices of this kind, and by the description of parties who had that day been examined, this case ought to have that effect. The Albert Office, he was afraid, was not the only one in London where these sort of transactions were carried on; and he hoped that what had taken place might be attended with some good effect in future.

James Smyth, a very poor old man, has been found *Murdered* in a wood near Cavan. His head was crushed and rent in a frightful way. The motive for the crime is unknown: the body had not been plundered of a few shillings which were in a pocket.

There have been serious *Bread Riots at Nottingham*. On the night of the 14th instant a crowd of several thousand persons assembled in the market-place and attacked the shops of several bakers, breaking the windows and doing other damage. Thence they proceeded to Radford, a manufacturing village near the town, where they committed similar outrages. A baker captured one of the mob, who was immediately rescued by his companions. The police at length succeeded in dispersing the rioters. Next day special constables were sworn in, and other measures taken to preserve the peace, which was not again broken.

Between one and two o'clock in the morning of the 19th inst., a young woman committed suicide by *Throwing herself from Waterloo Bridge*. She passed the money collector, evidently in great trouble, and sobbing loudly. A short time afterwards the watchman on Hungerford-bridge heard the screams of a female, and splashing in the water. The toll men soon hailed the Thames police, who rowed to the spot, and found the poor creature partly covered with water, the tide being far out at the time. The unfortunate girl was instantly brought on shore, and taken to King's College Hospital, where every attention was paid to the case, but she expired from the injuries she had met with from her tremendous leap.

The late bankers, Strahan, Paul and Bates, were *Committed for Trial* by the Bow Street magistrate on the 12th instant. The trial came on at the Central Criminal Court on the 19th. An application was made on the part of the prisoners for a postponement of the trial, on the ground that, being so recently committed, they had not time to prepare their defence. No opposition being made, the application was granted, the sureties for their appearance being renewed.

The law and police reports of this month teem with *Murders and Outrages committed by men on their Wives and Women with whom they cohabited*.—On the 18th inst. a brutal *Murder* was perpetrated in the neighbourhood of Artillery Lane, Bishopsgate Street, by a man named Lordan, on his own wife. On the previous night Lordan and his wife went to a raffle and a wake at a public-house near home, where there was a violent quarrel between them, ending in blows, the husband being jealous of another man. Lordan left the public-house at half-past eleven o'clock, returned home and went to bed, his wife remaining behind. At a quarter past five o'clock in the morning she returned home, but did not go to bed. She called one of her two sons, who resided with them, to go to work, upon which he dressed himself and left home. Shortly afterwards, at about half-past six o'clock, she called her second son, and asked for a light for the purpose of lighting her pipe. She afterwards went to the bed upon which her husband was lying, when he took from underneath the bed, where he had concealed it, a large pointed knife, like that used by butchers, and made a thrust at her throat, wounding her severely. She made the best of her way to the door, to escape, but sank on the stairs, and died almost immediately. A few moments after the horrible deed was committed, Lordan gave himself up to a policeman, by whom he was conveyed to the station-house, where he made a full confession of his guilt. A coroner's inquest has returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Lordan.—An act of shocking *Brutality* was committed on the night of the 5th inst. by a man named Dutton, residing in the cellar of a house in Tindle-street, Liverpool. He went home drunk, and, after cruelly beating his wife, turned her out of the house, along with her child at the breast, and two sons of the respective ages of fifteen and nine years. The mother and child took shelter at a neighbour's house, but the poor lads went and lay down on a brick-kiln, where they were found at six in the morning, one dead, and the other insensible. The younger boy was immediately taken home, and he is likely to get better. The father was taken into custody.—At the Southwark police court, on the 18th, George Pemble, a shoemaker, was charged with having *Murdered* Mary Latimer, a woman with whom he cohabited. They had quarrelled, and he beat her so dreadfully that she died immediately. He was remanded.—On the 20th a coal-porter, named Dodd, was charged at the West-

minster office with *Assaulting* his wife by kicking her so violently that her life is now endangered; and on the same day a man named Barry was brought before the sitting magistrate, in Southwark, charged with *Attempting to Murder* his wife, the prisoner's daughter stating that she thought her mother's legs were broken. Both were remanded.—The most atrocious of these cases was that of Henry Watts, a coachman, who was tried at the Central Criminal Court for the *Murder* of his wife. He had been about to flog his son, when his wife begged of him not to chastise the child, and said it would be more to his credit if he sent it to school. Upon this he took her, instead of the boy, by the shoulders, beat her, and roared out in answer to her remonstrance, "I'll be d—d if I don't murder you." She went up stairs, he followed, got first upon the landing, and by a blow struck her down into the passage. She was carried, much injured, into the room of some lodgers, and placed on a bed. There he endeavoured again to get at her, and resume his torture, but was prevented. Unfortunately no hindrance was offered to the subsequent desire of the woman to be taken up to her own room, where she was placed on her bed, and so given up as a victim to her torturer. He pulled her from the bed upon the floor, and, when her eyes were fixed with approaching death, dragged her about, bent and twisted her body, kicked and bumped it with his knee. Still in this condition, with death appearing more and more near, he held her head back over the grate, and shook it; he struck her about the face and breast; and with a remark that "he knew how to touch her and make her feel," proceeded to atrocities which even the Old Bailey flinched from hearing told in detail. All this was seen, and the witness who saw it deposed that the wretch was perfectly sober. A case of murder was clearly proved; but a verdict of manslaughter only was given, and the criminal was sentenced to 14 years' transportation.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

MR. DOUGLAS DENT, storkeeper of the dockyard in Devonport, was accidentally *Drowned* on the evening of the 3d inst. He was cruising in his dingy under canvas near Lady Emma's Cottage, Mount Edgecumbe, where the flood-tide runs between the rocks with great swiftness, and with occasional irregularity; he was accompanied by his two sons, Mr. Albert Dent, Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, recently returned from the West Indies, and Mr. Digby Dent, clerk in the Devonport Dockyard. The wind was puffy, and the sail having jibed one of the sons reached up the mast and attempted to clear it: his weight overbalanced the dingy, which was of light draught, and she upset immediately. The accident was observed by a number of pleasure-seekers on the grounds of Mount Edgecumbe, and they hailed several boats; which, however, were unfortunately at such a distance as not to arrive before Mr. Dent had sunk, and his sons did not recover until some time after they were picked up. A seaman recovered Mr. Dent's body by diving.

Three pupils of Heversham Grammar School—Goodwin, Cowell, and Rigby—have been *Drowned* at Heversham Marsh, an arm of the sea forming part of Morecambe Bay. The deceased were all young men; a number of pupils went with them to the Marsh to bathe; the unfortunate three seem to have got hold of a plank, and were thus probably tempted to go out too far; and it would seem also that a sudden depression had formed in the sand: the three got out of their depth; they could not swim, there were no swimmers or boats near, and they were drowned.

The journey of the 'Queen to the North,' on the 6th inst. was attended with several *Casualties*, one of which was fatal. The journey from Grantham to Bawtry was completed in sixty-two minutes, and at Bawtry the train was stopped by the heating of one of the axles of the engine. At Darlington, again, it was found necessary to detach the royal carriage from the train, as the axle had become hot. About six miles north of Darlington, one of the Great Northern Company's "fitters"

left the guard's van, when the train was at full speed, to lubricate a heated wheel-box: while he was thus engaged, his head came in contact with a girder of a bridge, and he was killed on the spot.

A shocking *Railway Accident* occurred at the Dudley station, on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton line, on Sunday night, the 9th inst. A train is due from Worcester at 8.45 p.m., but on that evening it did not arrive till about 9 o'clock, when it ran into the station at about the usual rate. Previously to the stoppage of the train, as the railway officials allege, the doors of several carriages were seen open, and although the usual cry was made to the passengers to keep their seats, one or two of them jumped out, and among them was a Mr. John Cooper, assistant clerk in the Walsall County Court, who had a child about four years old in his arms, and who, in descending from the carriage, fell between the carriage and the platform, and was dragged a distance of about twenty or thirty yards. It was found, on the train being stopped, that his legs were bent back, and that the body was jammed in between the carriage and the platform. He had his child grasped firmly in his arms, and the train had to be detached from the carriage, and the carriage itself raised with jacks, before they could be extricated. They were conveyed into the porters' room, and Mr. Johnson, surgeon, was sent for; he came immediately, but Mr. Cooper had expired. Several of his bones were broken, and his body was dreadfully crushed. The child also was found to be seriously hurt, the poor creature's thighs being fractured, and its body otherwise injured. An inquest has been commenced, but adjourned to allow time for inquiry.

A lamentable *Railway Accident* has taken place on the Reading and Reigate line. Crosley, an enginedriver, was directed to take his engine to Guildford, and bring to Reading a London train. Finding that the stoker of his engine was not there,—he ordered a "cleaner" to jump up; and without placing any lights on the engine, without looking whether the points were right for the up-line, by taking which only he knew he should avoid a train nearly due, without speaking to the station-master, he put on steam, and started out of the engine-shed on to the down-line. About a mile and a half from Reading, his engine crashed against the down-train. The two engines were destroyed; a luggage-van and second class carriage were broken to pieces; and the passengers were strewn about in every direction. Three were killed—Mr. Fynmore, a banker's clerk at Reading; Mr. Belton, a military student; and Francis Beant, a gamekeeper. Crosley was found dead. Nine passengers were badly wounded—two dangerously. The inquest was opened on the 13th inst. Jesse Ferguson, Crosley's stoker for the occasion, who was in the hospital, badly hurt, made a statement to the Coroner, which was read to the jury. It exhibited very clearly Crosley's recklessness. He told Ferguson not to mind lighting the lamps till the engine was in motion—a grave offence; Ferguson was trimming the lamps when the collision occurred. It was Crosley's duty to direct his fireman to turn the points on leaving the station, that the engine might be put on the up-line—he gave no directions, and seems to have assumed that the points were rightly placed, which he ought to have known they would not be. His engine proceeded with the tender in advance, exhibiting no light; and at the time of the disaster he was blowing off steam: the people in charge of the passenger-train were unconscious of his approach.

A *Railway Accident* of a novel but very shocking character took place on the 18th inst., about nine at night, on the Dinting Viaduct of the Manchester and Sheffield Railway, across the river Etherow, near Glossop. A train from Manchester approached the Hadfield station, which is at the eastern end of the viaduct, and in consequence of a Liverpool excursion train being in advance, and having to discharge passengers at the station, the Manchester train was brought to a stand on the viaduct. The night was very dark, and it appears that some of the passengers in the Manchester train, who had to get out at Hadfield, imagined that the train was already at the station. Three of these persons, two young men and a young woman, succeeded in opening

the door of the carriage and got out. The parapet of the viaduct on that side was within a very short space of the carriages, and it is supposed that owing to the darkness of the night, instead of getting down in the narrow space between the train and the parapet of the viaduct, they stepped upon the top of the parapet. Immediately afterwards an alarm was given that they had fallen over, and the shocking fact was soon afterwards confirmed by the discovery of their bodies in the valley below. They had fallen from a height of seventy-five feet. Two of them, John Healy, aged 23 years, and Jane Hadfield, who were lovers, and had been to Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester, were quite dead when found. The other man, Thomas Priestnall, a weaver, aged 29 years, residing at Freetown, was taken up in a state of insensibility, and died in about an hour afterwards. Priestnall had attempted to persuade another young woman to get out with him, but, fortunately, she had not complied with his request.

A deplorable accident resulting in the *Death of Three Quarrymen*, occurred in the Llanberis slate quarry on the 17th instant. Four men, named Henry Roberts, Owen Roberts, Evan Rowlands, and John Price, were sinking a shaft in order to work a level. A very extensive blast had been discharged, and the men, having waited the customary time, prepared to descend. Rowlands went first, and, nothing being heard of him, the second followed, being heard to say as he went down, that Evans lay at the bottom. A third then descended, calling, as he did so, to the two to rise up. He then fell, suffocated by the smoke remaining from the blast. The fourth man then went partly down the shaft, but, seeing the lifeless bodies at the bottom, he returned and obtained help. One of the men, on being brought to the surface, exhibited signs of life, but though the poor man lingered twelve hours he expired without evincing the slightest consciousness. An inquest was held next day in the Quarry Hospital, and a verdict accordingly returned.

Mr. John Shepherd, landlord of the Oxford Arms in Westminster-road, and brother of one of the lessees of the Surrey Theatre, has been accidentally *Killed* while out shooting with his brother and Mr. Creswick. When about to pass through a gap, the keeper recommended the party to put down the hammers of their guns. Mr. Creswick had done so with one barrel, and was letting down the hammer of the second, when by some means the piece went off, and shot Mr. Shepherd dead.

Mr. Nicholson, organ-builder, Macclesfield, has *Lost his Life by a Singular Accident*. It was in the act of "voicing" or "soundning" a pipe, and applied his ear to it, when, from some unknown cause, a splinter flew out, entered his ear, and gradually penetrated to the brain. After three weeks' illness he expired, suffering great agony.

A fatal *Fire* has occurred in Wolverhampton. Messrs. Booth and Co. recently erected premises in the town for the manufacture of naphtha and creosote oil; and legal proceedings were about to be taken to get rid of it as a nuisance. On the 11th inst. by some means unknown, a quantity of naphtha ignited; the flames spread; in a little time the whole place was a roaring furnace, streams of liquid fire pouring out to ignite the surrounding buildings. The manufactory was, of course, completely ruined; two adjoining houses were gutted; and other damage done. A man who was attending a furnace was unable to escape—his body was converted to a mere cinder. A mother and child perished in one of the dwelling-houses. Seven other persons were burnt, but not fatally. It is stated that vast bodies of flame shot up into the air from the burning spirit; at a certain altitude portions of flame separated from the mass, and, descending like water-spouts, burnt up everything inflammable upon which they alighted.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

BIRMINGHAM has subscribed for and erected a statue of Sir Robert Peel. It was designed by Mr. Peter Hollins, is composed of bronze, and was cast in the

founry of Messrs. Elkington. The figure, eight feet six inches in height, stands on a granite pedestal, resting on the right and advancing the left foot. The right hand grasps a scroll, the left rests upon the hip. On the pedestal is the single word "Peel." It stands nearly opposite the town-hall. On the 27th ult. this statue was uncovered and delivered over to the Mayor by the Testimonial Committee, in the presence of the municipal authorities and a great crowd.

Some time since, Mr. Adderley, M.P., offered ten acres of land at Saltley for the formation of a park for the people of Birmingham; but he desired a nominal rent to be paid to him, to have a voice in framing the regulations, and a guarantee for the proper laying-out of the ground: apparently from some misunderstanding of the scope of these conditions, the Town-Council declined Mr. Adderley's offer. Determined that the public shall not suffer from this, Mr. Adderley has announced that he will set aside the ten acres as a playground for all classes, not attempting to fence or plant the plot.

Emigration from the North of Scotland to the Canadas continues in full force. About 600 people will shortly leave Aberdeen and neighbouring ports. Agricultural labour has advanced in value in consequence of these thinnings of the population.

The *Edinburgh Courant* declares that Forbes MacKenzie's Act has given rise to much private profligacy on the Sunday; young people clubbing together to lay in a store of liquors to be consumed while the taverns are closed; and then scenes occur that would not be tolerated in a public-house. To meet this evil (it is added) another has been created—a police "spy" system.

The annual meeting of the *Liverpool Chamber of Commerce* took place on the 27th ult.; Mr. Heath in the chair. The proceedings were confined to the reception of a report, stating the legislative changes made in laws bearing on commerce during the session. In the course of a speech on the report, one of the Borough Members, Mr. Horsfall, told an anecdote connected with the passage of the Bills of Lading Act, which amusingly illustrates midnight legislation. A bill was drawn by the American Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Baring, Mr. Cairns, Mr. Brown, and himself, presented it; and as the law now stood the holder of a bill of lading had not only a right to the property to which it referred, but the right of recovery should it be damaged, or in a case of short delivery. The promoters of the bill were desirous that power should be taken under the bill to detain any foreign vessel until the claim had been settled for damage or short delivery. To this the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Bouverie, objected; and, on a division, the House rejected the clause. In looking over the list of the majority who voted against the clause, he found eighteen members of the Government, and two members who intended to vote with them, but did not. The bill did not come on before one o'clock in the morning, and the Scotch Education Bill had occupied the whole of the evening. It was not an interesting subject to many honourable members; many were fast asleep; and two admitted to him afterwards, that in voting for the Bill of Lading they thought it was the Scotch Education Bill. This anecdote was received with great laughter.

An official paper just published shows the enormous amount of the *Parliamentary Expenses of Railway Companies*. It appears from a return to an order of the House of Commons, at the instance of Mr. Hadfield, that the legal, engineering, and parliamentary expenses of 160 railway companies in the united kingdom have amounted to 14,086,110*l.* There are 45 railway companies that have made no return, including the Bristol and Exeter, the Dublin and Belfast Junction, the Great Southern and Western, the Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, the Shrewsbury and Birmingham, Shrewsbury and Chester, and the Whitchaven and Furness. The expenses of the 160 companies who have furnished the returns for legal and parliamentary expenses average 88,000*l.* each; and taking the 45 other companies to average but 30,000*l.* each, or 1,350,000*l.*, the total amount would appear to be 15,436,110*l.* for law, engineering, and parliamentary expenses of 205 railway companies in the united kingdom, the chief portion of

which must have been expended within the past 10 years. Mr. Hadfield's return forms three principal heads. Under the head of sums of money expended or due by the several railway companies in the United Kingdom for establishing such companies and their undertakings, and for branches and additions thereto, £2,548,752, is stated as the total amount; under the head of sums expended in obtaining acts of Parliament for purchasing other railways, or amalgamating with railway and canal companies, £52,202L is stated; and under the head of costs, charges, and expenses incurred, and occasioned by any actions, suits, and other proceedings at law or in equity by the said companies, £65,193L; making together the 14,086,110L. It is believed (says the *Times*) that the legal, engineering, and parliamentary expenses of the numerous companies that failed in their attempts to obtain parliamentary powers, cannot be estimated at less than 5,000,000L, making in the whole about 20,000,000L as the cost of railway legislation, so far as it has been carried.

A meeting was held at Devizes on the 3rd inst., to establish a *Juvenile Reformatory Institution* for Wiltshire. The Marquis of Lansdowne presided; and among the gentlemen present were the Marquis of Bath, Sir John Audry, several members of Parliament connected with the county, the Dean of Salisbury, and the Recorder of Devizes. It was resolved that a school should be established, on the basis of economy and practical utility.

The first stone of a *New Hospital*, in Quay-street, Manchester, was laid on the 3rd inst., by the Bishop. The hospital is to be called St. Mary's, and to be devoted to the diseases of women and children. Miss Atherton of Carthill Castle gives 500L; Dr. Radford of Manchester, his medical library and museum.

The *Early Closing Association* held the first of a series of autumnal meetings, at Exeter Hall on the 5th inst. The chair was occupied by Mr. Mechi, of Tiptree Hall, who stated, that in his own business the great bulk of the work was effected before five o'clock, and what is done after does not really pay for gas-light. Mr. Lilwall stated that many of the principal London houses [in the linen-draperies trade?] are now closing at one o'clock on Saturdays, others at two, and very few later than three o'clock. Resolutions for pursuing the movement passed as a matter of course.

The *Trade and Navigation Returns* for the month ending July 31, as well as for the first seven months of 1853, have been published, and from them we learn the following results: For the month for which the returns are made up, the declared value of articles of British produce exported was 8,150,383L; for what may be considered the corresponding month of 1851 it was 9,439,643L. From January 1 to July 31, 1853, the value of our exports was 51,262,705L; and if, for the purpose of comparison, we add the value of the average exports for five days more, so as that the time may be equal in both cases, we find that for the first seven months of 1853, we exported to the extent of 52,830,055L and for the same period of 1851, to 58,612,645L; the decrease being 5,792,560L. The column of quantities entered for home consumption shows that in the past month, contrasted with the corresponding period last year, we have consumed 457,000lbs. of cocoa as compared with 332,000lbs.; 3,691,000lbs. of coffee as against 2,965,000lbs.; 85,000lbs. of rice against 64,000lbs.; 323,000 proof gallons of spirits compared with 349,000 proof gallons; 1,049,000 cwt.s, of unrefined sugar against 728,000 cwt.s; 8,570,000lbs. of tea against 5,086,415lbs.; 2,630,000lbs. of tobacco compared with 2,397,000lbs.; and 587,000 gallons of wine contrasted with 556,000 gallons; thus showing a considerable increase in the consumption of nearly every important article generally used for purposes of domestic comfort. As regards the navigation returns, they show that in the foreign trade the total amount of tonnage entering inwards during the last month was 765,000, as compared with 749,000 last year; clearing outwards the quantity was, in 1853, 863,000; in 1851, 765,000. In the coasting trade the totals of tonnage in the two months were—entering inwards in 1851, 1,181,000; and in 1853, 1,089,000; clearing outwards in 1851, 1,271,000; and in 1853, 1,172,000 tons.

The *Library and Reading Room of the London Composers* was opened in Raquet-court, Fleet-street, on the 10th inst. The library contains nearly 2000 volumes of sterling literary merit, and many of the most valuable works have been contributed by composers themselves. Amongst the donors to the institution are the Earl of Harrowby, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Right Hon. Mr. Gladstone, Major-General T. Peronet Thompson, Messrs. Chambers, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and a number of gentlemen known for their zeal in the cause of educational progress. On the day on which the library was opened a munificent donation of valuable works, amounting to 165 volumes, was received from his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

A large and influential meeting of coal-owners, and other gentlemen interested in the *Education of the Children of Miners* in the counties of Durham and Northumberland, has been held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to take into consideration a scheme of education proposed by the honourable and Reverend J. Grey. The chair was occupied by the Earl of Durham; and the list of other gentlemen present included Lord Ravensworth, the Honourable H. G. Liddell, M.P., Mr. T. E. Headlam, M.P., Mr. R. Ingham, M.P., the Mayor of Newcastle, and the Mayor of Gateshead. The plan was explained by the Reverend G. R. Moncrieff, Government Inspector of Schools. By the last report of Mr. Morris upon the schools in Staffordshire, it appeared that the average age of children in the first class of schools was scarcely more than ten years, and in pit schools only nine; and that fact was thoroughly confirmed by experience in other districts, especially Yorkshire, where but for the operation of the Factory Act the average age of children at school would hardly be above nine. These facts showed the necessity of further exertion. An experiment, however, had been tried in Staffordshire, which showed that more may be done; and Mr. Moncrieff briefly explained this plan. In this first instance, a prize of 1L. was proposed to be given to every boy and girl under ten years of age (this limit being only fixed for the present), who should bring certificates showing that he had attended school for two years, and certificates of good character; and who should be able to pass satisfactorily an examination, which would be of a very moderate amount of difficulty indeed, only including subjects of the ordinary elementary character. Along with this prize would be given a card or ticket, as a kind of testimonial to the pupil's good conduct and perseverance. At the end of the next year, the same child might come up, and if again successful, receive a prize of 2L. and so on. And they might, after having left school, again present themselves for a larger prize, on producing evidence that they had attended a Sunday school, and some other school during the week, and thus kept up their education. Mr. Moncrieff then showed, by reference to reports, that the way in which money had been expended by the prize scholars in Staffordshire had been most satisfactory; while the cards were carefully preserved, and regarded as honourable testimonials to merit. Mr. Moncrieff was careful to explain that Government in no way interfered in the local management of such schools.

The *British Association for the Advancement of Science* opened its twenty-fifth meeting on the 12th inst., at Glasgow. About mid-day, a business meeting was held, in the Merchants' Hall, the Earl of Harrowby in the chair; when the minutes of the Liverpool meeting were read and approved, and Colonel Sabine presented the annual report of the Council, also unanimously adopted. The statement of the accounts, showed receipts amounting to 2365L 10s. Sd., and payments amounting to 1548L 9s. 1d., leaving a balance of 817L 1s. Sd. In the evening there was a public meeting for the purpose of hearing the inaugural address of the new President, the Duke of Argyll. Among the listeners, were the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Hamilton, the Earls of Eglington, Elgin, and Harrowby, Lord Wrottesley, and Prince Bonaparte. The address was descriptive of the great advances made in science since the British Association visited Glasgow fifteen years ago. The annual dinner took place on the 18th and the proceedings terminated on the following day. The papers

read at the different sections are described as generally valuable and of a practical character. At a meeting of the General Committee it was determined that Cheltenham should be the place of meeting next year. Dr. Daubeny was elected Presidents, and the Earl of Ducie, and the Bishop of Gloucester, Vice-presidents.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

HER MAJESTY and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, and the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, left Osborne on the 5th inst., for Buckingham Palace, and next day proceeded to Scotland.

The Queen received the news of the fall of Sebastopol by an electric message, which reached Balmoral on Monday the 10th, at ten o'clock at night. Her Majesty instantly commanded the news to be spread abroad; and Prince Albert, with Earl Granville and the young princes, went up to Craig Cowbain, where an immense bonfire was lighted and illuminated the country round. A number of Highlanders speedily arrived, and, whiskey having been brought, the health of the Queen and Prince, and of the brave soldiers in the Crimea, were drunk with acclamations. The Queen and the Duchess of Kent, with the ladies of the suite, viewed the distant scene from the windows of the castle. The Queen sent fifty guineas to the station-master at Banchory, in acknowledgment of his activity in expressing the intelligence.

Prince William Frederick of Prussia has arrived at Balmoral on a visit to the Queen. He has taken part in the deer-stalking expeditions of Prince Albert, and her Majesty's pleasure excursions in the country.

The government has agreed to grant a pension to the mother of Dr. James Thomson, of the 4th, who distinguished himself so signalily in waiting upon the Russian wounded after the battle of the Alma.

Lord Palmerston has given a reply to the memorialists who prayed that an unconditional pardon might be granted to Mr. Smith O'Brien. The Government decline to recommend the Queen to grant the required pardon, but wish it to be distinctly understood that they entertain no personal or political resentment towards Mr. O'Brien.

During the stay of the Queen at Paris, her Majesty paid marked attention to General Canrobert. She observed his absence from the *cortège* on the Saturday of her arrival, and from the Palace of St. Cloud in the evening. On the Sunday the General received a special invitation to dine at St. Cloud, by order of the Emperor. The Queen made him sit on her left hand, and conversed much with him during dinner. On the Monday, General Canrobert was invited to the apartment of Prince Albert: while he was in conversation with the Prince, the Queen entered unannounced, detained the General, made him be seated, and told him her intention, with the sanction of the Emperor, to present him with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath.

The Queen, upon the recommendation of Sir William Molesworth, has appointed Mr. Illecks, a distinguished member of the Canadian Legislature, to the Governorship of Barbadoes.

The Royal Humane Society have awarded a medal to Master Andrews, of the Market-hill, Cambridge, for saving the life of a fellow-creature from drowning in the river at Sheep's Green, a few weeks ago. Andrews, in the most gallant manner, plunged in, dived down, and brought the man up when he had sunk for the last time, and with the assistance of an Irishman, a Mr. Doyle, succeeded in restoring him to animation. The deed is the more praiseworthy, as Andrews is little more than a boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Bracebridge, on their return home from the East, have received a public welcome, in which Earl Howe, Sir George Chetwynd, Mr. Dugdale, Mr. Adderley, Sir John Chetwode, took a leading part. A procession was formed from the railway station to Atherton-stone, and the route through which they passed was adorned with arches of evergreens, and flags upon the houses, with mottoes, many of them from the Holy

Scriptures. When the procession arrived at the Park, Mr. Dugdale presented an address of congratulation, which was acknowledged by Mr. Bracebridge. He stated on the authority of Dr. Sutherland, that through the exertion and influence of Miss Nightingale, the hospitals had become a paradise compared with what they had been; and he confirmed the statement from his own observation.

The late Mr. Abbott Lawrence has bequeathed the sum of 130,000 dollars for educational and benevolent purposes.

The Duke of Northumberland has been expending the enormous sum of 50,000*l.* a-year in rebuilding cottages, farm-houses, and buildings, and in draining lands, on his vast estates in Northumberland.

The late Mr. Feargus O'Connor has had a public funeral, which took place on the 10th inst. A considerable number of persons assembled in Finsbury-square and Smithfield; proceeding thence, they joined a third body in Russell-square; and the whole mass marched to Notting-hill, whence they escorted the hearse to Kensal-green Cemetery. The roads were lined with people, and several thousands were in the cemetery to witness the final proceedings. After the ordinary service, Mr. Jones, formerly of Liverpool, delivered an oration on the virtues of the deceased. A hymn was sung, after which the people quietly dispersed.

Dr. Barth, the celebrated African explorer, whose fate has caused so much anxiety, arrived on the 8th inst. at Marseilles from Tripoli.

Dr. Easton and Mr. Sullivan, who were captured at Hango, in the Cossack's boat, were exchanged at Odessa on the 18th inst.

The money subscribed towards the defence of Lieut. Perry, late of the 46th regiment, has been paid over towards his account in Australia, through Messrs. McGregor, the army agents. Mr. Perry did not succeed in his application to obtain for his son a commission in the Turkish Legion, and Lieut. Perry is therefore determined to proceed to Australia. The total sum collected was 2,632*l.* 8s. 9d. Expenses on account of court-martial, advertising, &c., &c., 472*l.* 19s. Cash and interest previously paid to Lieut. Perry, 140*l.* 6s. Balance, 2,010*l.* 3s. 3d.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ARTHUR WELLESLEY TORBENS, K.C.B., her Majesty's Military Commissioner in France, died in Paris on the 24th ult., in his 47th year, after a short illness. He had not recovered from the wound received at Inkerman.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ROBERT NICKLE, Commander of the Forces at Melbourne, died at the seat of government in that colony in May last.

MR. FERGUS O'CONNOR died on the 30th ult. of paralysis. For the last two years he had been under the care of Dr. Tuke, at Chiswick, but about a week before his death he was removed by his sister, Miss O'Connor.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE THOMAS NAPIER, an officer of distinguished service in the last war, and Governor of the Cape of Good Hope in 1837, died suddenly at Geneva, on the 8th inst., in his 72d year.

M. BINEAU, Senator, and lately French Minister of Finance, died at Paris on the 8th inst., from the complaint under which he has been suffering for some months.

ALDERMAN KELLY died on the 7th inst., at Margate, whither he had gone for a few days. He was in his 84th year, and has represented the Ward of Farringdon Within as alderman for twenty-five years.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL THOMAS UNETT, who was returned as severely wounded in the late assault upon Sebastopol, has since died of his wounds. The deceased officer was in the battle of the Alma, and with his regiment in the trenches before Sebastopol all through the trying period of last winter.

MRS. AUGUSTA FITZCLARENCE, only daughter of the late Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, who had for some time past been in a declining state of health, died on the 8th inst., at the Countess Dowager of Glasgow's residence in the island of Culbrae, N.B.

VICE-ADMIRAL REPINGTON died on the 2nd inst., at Amington-hall, Warwickshire. The gallant admiral had been upwards of half a century in the navy, having obtained his lieutenancy in February, 1804.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

ADVICES from the *East Indies* state that an insurrection has taken place among the Santals, a people occupying the valleys of the Rajmahal Hills, in Bengal, to the north of Calcutta. Several thousand mountaineers had risen; their avowed object being to murder every European and native of influence, in which they succeeded to some extent, two ladies (Mrs. Thomas and Miss Pell) being victims of their sanguinary hate. The cause of this savage determination is involved in obscurity, but various rumours are assigned, viz., a quarrel between the mountaineers and the railway people—a dispute about revenue—insult offered to the women of the tribe—and, lastly, to religious fanaticism. When the above account came away the rebels were spreading devastation, pillage, and murder, wherever they went, the people fleeing the country far and near. Troops and artillery had been despatched to quell the riot, and to arrest the ringleaders; but it was not expected that those objects would be accomplished without much bloodshed. "The insurrection," says the *Overland Bombay Times* of 13th August, "is still in progress, but we know as little now as we did a fortnight since of the causes which led to it, or the catastrophe to which it may yet lead. The insurgents in the field are said to amount to 30,000—bands of them of from 500 to 2000 strong are overrunning the country to the south-eastward, spreading terror and desolation before and around them. Two hundred villages are already said to have been destroyed by them, and several great towns have been brought into danger. Wherever they have come in contact with the regular troops they have, of course, been dispersed with much slaughter, and they are not anywhere in a position to offer effective resistance to the most moderate-sized detachments. So soon as we have a sufficient force in the field they will be hunted down or driven back to their fastnesses, but the mischief they are at present occasioning is as lamentable as their appearance in the field was unexpected." In all other respects our Indian Empire is perfectly tranquil.

The intelligence received from the *West Indies* continues unsatisfactory as regards commercial matters. Trade throughout the islands was more or less depressed, and operations in all cases were of limited extent. The general report with respect to the sugar crop is not unfavourable, but the supply of labour was very inadequate to meet the requirements of the planters, and will doubtless be found to exercise a marked influence upon the quantity of sugar manufactured, as under the present imperfect system there is necessarily a great waste, both of labour and material. There can be but little doubt that a larger proportion of the crop will be converted into rum than should be the case, simply because a sufficient number of hands cannot be obtained to save the crop in good time. A considerable number of vessels had received serious injury, and several had been lost, in consequence of the occurrence of a hurricane of great severity which had visited the more northerly islands. Upon the whole the sanitary report is favourable, although in some islands fever prevailed.

A serious insurrection has taken place in the *Gambia Settlement* in Western Africa. It broke out at Sabbagee, a town on the river Gambia. The occasion of the outbreak was an attempt by the police force, assisted

by a few of the military, headed by Licuts, Davis and Armstrong, to arrest a lawless character, named Fodey Ansuman. No sooner was the warrant served on Ansuman than his supporters fired on the arresting parties, wounding Lieut. Armstrong, and taking two of the soldiers prisoners, which caused the military to retreat. Ansuman's followers, assisted by other tribes, afterwards burned three English villages. The governor, Lieut.-Colonel O'Connor, immediately collected a small force, and proceeded to the seat of disturbance, which he hoped soon to suppress. The natives, however, waylaid them on their march, and gave them battle. After two hours' fighting the British troops were repulsed with a loss of thirty killed and three wounded: among the latter was Colonel O'Connor himself, who received two wounds. The insurgents, emboldened by their success, took possession of the road between Bathurst and Cape St. Mary's, threatening to invade Bathurst. Happily the natives of the neighbouring towns remained faithful, and after obtaining assistance from the French settlement of Goree, Governor O'Connor sent out a second expedition to Sabbagee, which, after a desperate resistance, was carried at the point of the bayonet, and the town itself destroyed. The French troops led the advance, and lost a non-commissioned officer, one rank and file killed, and five wounded. The British lost none killed, but thirty-five wounded. The natives lost about 200.

We have intelligence from *Melbourne* to the 18th of June. Affairs were at a kind of crisis. The government had proposed a method of raising additional taxes, to make up a deficiency of 600,000*l.* The plan involved 10 per cent. ad valorem customs-duties, various stamp-duties, and an increased assessment on cattle and sheep. A resolution declaring this plan "inexpedient and impolitic" was carried against the government (which is strong in nominees) by a majority of 21 to 20. Sir Charles Hotham had met this resolution by arresting the public outlay in a manner to occasion inconvenience. Two motions were on the notice-paper of the Assembly,—one expressing great impatience at the delayed arrival of the Constitution Act, and the want of information on the subject; the other affirming, that if the arrival of the Constitution Act were much longer delayed, the governor himself, on behalf of the inhabitants, should establish "a system in consonance with the views and notions of a free people."

The state of the colonial trade showed a decided improvement. The exports for the first quarter of the year were 3,562,933*l.*, against 3,577,926*l.* in 1854; the imports, 3,248,261*l.*, against 6,157,422*l.*

The last advices from *Adelaide*, *South Australia*, give some particulars of the progress of the efforts to develop the navigation of the river Murray. The waters had risen sufficiently for practical purposes, and the Murray River Navigation Company were about to raise subscriptions for a general extension of operations. At present their fleet consisted of thirteen vessels, comprising four steamers of between 40 and 50 horse-power, eight barges of from 120 to 150 tons burden, and a schooner of 100 tons. A railway was also contemplated to connect the Murray with the city and port of Adelaide, about forty miles in length, two-thirds of which will be upon a dead level.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE brilliant victory before *Sebastopol* on the 16th of August (briefly mentioned at the close of last month's narrative of the siege), when the Russian attack on the lines of the Tchernaya was repelled by the French and Sardinians, has been followed by the *Fall of Sebastopol itself*.

We resume the narrative, commencing with the *Battle of the Tchernaya*, of which a full account is

given by Gen. Pelissier in the following despatch, dated the 18th of August.

"Monsieur le Maréchal,—You will have learnt by my telegraphic despatches of yesterday and of the day before, the general results of the Battle of the Tchernaya; to-day I send you Excellency a detailed report of that battle so glorious for our arms. For some days, although the enemy abstained from any apparent move-

ment, certain indications made us suppose he would attack our lines on the Tchernaya. You know those positions, which are excellent, and which are covered in their full extent by the Tchernaya itself, and by a canal which forms a second obstacle. The Sardinian army occupies the whole of the right opposite Tchergoun; the French troops guard the centre and the left, which joins, after a declivity, our plateaux of Inkermann. Independently of a few fords, which are bad enough, there are two bridges across the Tchernaya and the canal. One, a little above Tchergoun, is under the guns of the Piedmontese; the other, called Traktir bridge, is below and almost in the centre of the French positions. Looking straight before one towards the other bank of the Tchernaya, you behold to the right the heights of Tchouliou, which, after extending themselves in undulating plateaux, fall somewhat abruptly towards the Tchernaya, below Tchergoun, opposite the Piedmontese. These heights diminish opposite our centre, and starting from that point to the rocky sides of the Mackenzie plateau there is a plain about three or four kilometres in width. It is by that plain that the Mackenzie road leads across the Tchernaya at Traktir bridge, and after passing through our pontoons leads into the Balaklava plain. A strict watch was kept all along our line. The Turks, who occupy the hilly ground of Balaklava, were on the alert, and watched Alsou; and General d'Allonville, also put on his guard, doubled his vigilance in the high valley of Bairdar. My mind was quite at rest, moreover, as regards the whole extreme right; it is one of those mountainous regions where it is impossible to manœuvre large bodies of men; the enemy could only make false demonstrations there. In fact, that is what occurred. In the night between the 15th and 16th of August, General d'Allonville notified that he had troops opposite him, but his attitude imposed upon the enemy, who attempted nothing on that side, and dared not attack him. During this time the main body of the Russian troops, which had descended from the Mackenzie heights, of debouching near Ai-Todor, advanced, favoured by night, on the Tchernaya; to the right the 7th, 5th, and 12th divisions crossed the plain, and to the left the 17th division, a portion of the 6th, and the 4th followed the plateau of Tchouliou. A strong body of cavalry, and 160 pieces of artillery, supported all that infantry. A little before daybreak the advanced posts of the Sardinian army, placed as videttes as far as the heights of Tchouliou, fell back and announced that the enemy was advancing in considerable force; shortly afterwards, in fact, the Russians lined the heights of the right bank of the Tchernaya with heavy guns (*pièces de position*), and opened fire on us. General Herbillon, who commanded the French troops on this point, had made his arrangements for battle; to the right of the Traktir-road, Faucheux's division, with the 3rd battery of the 12th artillery; in the centre his own division, with the 6th company of the 13th; to the left, Camou's division, with the 4th battery of the 13th. On his side General della Marmora had ranged his troops in order of battle. At the same time General Morris's fine division of Chasseurs d'Afrique, speedily joined by General Scarlett's numerous and valiant cavalry, took up a position behind the hills of Kamara and Traktir. This cavalry was to take the enemy in flank in case he should succeed in forcing a passage by one of the three outlets of Tchergoun or Traktir, or at the incide to the left of General Camou. Colonel Forgoet, in command of the artillery of the Tchernaya lines, kept ready, to act as a reserve, six batteries of horse artillery, two of which belonged to the Imperial Guard. Six Turkish battalions of Osman Pasha's army, led by Sefer Pa-ha, came to lend us there assistance. Finally I ordered forward Levallant's division of the 1st Corps; Dulac's division of the 2nd Corps; and the Imperial Guard; composing reserves capable of remedying the most serious *contretemps*. The thick mist which covered the depths of the Tchernaya, and the smoke of the cannonade which had just commenced, prevented us distinguishing against which particular point the chief effort of the enemy would be directed, when on our extreme left the 7th Russian division came tilt against Camou's division. Received

by the 50th of the Line, the 3rd Zouaves, who charged them with the bayonet, and by the 82nd, which took them in flank, the enemy's columns were compelled to make a *demi-volte*, to recross the canal, and could only escape the fire of our artillery by getting out of range to rally. That division did not appear again during the day. In the centre the struggle was more long and desperate. The enemy had sent two divisions (the 12th supported by the 5th) against Traktir bridge. Many of their columns threw themselves at once upon the bridge, and the temporary passages they constructed with ladders, pontoons, and madriers; they cross the Tchernaya, the trench of the lines, and advance bravely on our positions; but assailed by an offensive movement by Generals Faucheux and De Failly, these columns are routed, recross the bridge occupied by the 95th, and are pursued beyond it by the 2nd Zouaves, the 97th of the Line, and by a portion of the 19th battalion of Chasseurs-à-pied. However, while the artillery was roaring on both sides the Russians reformed their columns of attack; the mist had cleared, and their movements became distinctly visible. Their 5th division reinforced the 12th, which had just been engaged, and the 17th was preparing to descend the heights of Tchouliou to support these two first divisions. General Herbillon then ordered General Faucheux to be reinforced by Cler's brigade, and gave the 73rd as a reserve to General de Failly. Colonel Forgoet, moreover, placed four batteries of horse artillery in position, which gave him on his front a total of seven batteries to be brought to bear upon the assaulting masses. The result was, that the second effort of the Russians, energetic as it was, proved of no avail against us, and they were compelled to retreat with great loss. The 17th Russian division, which had come down, throwing out large bodies of riflemen as skirmishers, had no better success. Received with great resolution by General Cler's brigade, and by a half battery of the Imperial Guard, harassed on the left by the troops of Trott's division, who pressed it closely, that division was compelled to recross the Tchernaya, and to fall back behind the batteries of position which lined the heights from which it had started. From this moment, nine a.m., the retreat of the enemy became plainly visible. Their long columns withdrew as fast as they could, under the protection of a considerable body of cavalry and artillery. For a moment I felt inclined to order a portion of the cavalry to charge to cut down the remnant of the 17th division between the Tchouliou and the Traktir bridges. With this object in view I had prepared some squadrons of Chasseurs d'Afrique, who were joined by some Sardinian squadrons and by one of General Scarlett's regiments, the 12th Lancers (from India). But the retreat of the Russians was so prompt that we could only have made a small number of prisoners, and this fine cavalry might have been reached by some of the enemy's batteries still in position. I deemed it preferable not to expose it for so small a result. General Della Marmora did not, moreover, stand in need of this support boldly to retake the advanced positions which his small posts occupied on the heights of Tchouliou. At three o'clock the whole of the enemy's army had disappeared. The division of the Guard and Dulac's division relieved the divisions engaged, as they stood in need of some rest. I sent back the 1st corps of Levallant's division, and the cavalry returned to its usual bivouac. This splendid action does the greatest honour to the infantry, to the horse artillery of the *Garde*, to that of the reserve, and to the artillery of divisions. I will, shortly, ask your Excellency to place before the Emperor the names of those who have deserved rewards, and to submit to the approbation of his Majesty those which I may have awarded in his name. Our losses are, doubtless, to be regretted, but they are not in proportion to the results obtained, and to those we have inflicted upon the enemy. We have eight superior officers wounded, nine subaltern officers killed, and fifty-three wounded, 172 non-commissioned officers and soldiers killed, 116 missing, and 1,163 wounded. The Russians have left 400 prisoners in our hands. The number of their killed may be estimated at more than 3,000, and of their wounded at more than 5,000, of which number 1,626 men and 38 officers have been taken to our ambulances. Among the slain found by us are

the bodies of two generals, whose names I have not been able to ascertain. The Sardinian army, which fought so valiantly at our side, has about 250 men *hors de combat*. It inflicted a much greater loss upon the enemy. One hundred prisoners and about 150 wounded remained in its hands. I am sorry to announce to your Excellency that General Count de Monteviechio, whose character and talents he greatly appreciated, was killed gloriously at the head of his brigade. I must point out to your Excellency the rapidity with which General Scarlett's cavalry, placed at my disposal by General Simpson, came up. The martial appearance of those magnificent squadrons betrayed an impatience which the happy and prompt result of the battle did not allow me to gratify. The English and Sardinian position batteries and the Turkish battery which Osman Pasha had sent to Aisou, fired with great precision and success. I thanked Osman Pasha for the promptitude with which he sent me six Turkish battalions under Sefer Pasha (General Koscielzki), four of which during the day occupied the passages near Tehorgoun. Nothing remarkable took place during the day on the Sebastopol side. Generals De Salles and Bosquet were, however, prepared to drive back with energy any attack of the besieged. I send your Excellency with this report the copy of the plan for the battle of the 16th, found upon the body of a Russian general, supposed to be General Read, who commanded the enemy's right, and was especially intrusted with the attack on Traktir bridge. I am, &c., PELISSIER, Commander-in-Chief."

A despatch from General Simpson of the 18th ult. gives, in a briefer and less detailed form than that of General Pelissier, an account of the battle on the Tehernaya. After describing the repeated attempts of the Russians to force the French and Sardinian position, and the orders for the battle found on the dead body of the Russian General Read, he says:

"From these it would appear that it was a most determined attempt to force us to raise the siege. Had they succeeded, Balaklava was to have been attacked by one portion of their army, while the heights on which we now are to have been stormed with the other; at the same time a vigorous sortie was to have been made from the town on the French works, on our extreme left, from the Quarantine, and another on the works on our extreme right on Mount Sapoune. The action is most glorious to the arms of the French and Sardinian troops. To meet the force of the Russians the former had but 12,000 infantry, and four batteries of artillery, engaged; the latter had 10,000 men in position, 4,500 actually engaged, and twenty-four pieces of cannon. The Russian force consisted of from 50,000 to 60,000 men, with 160 pieces of artillery, and cavalry to the amount of 6,000. This disparity of numbers will readily explain the difficulty that would have been experienced had an attempt been made to follow up the advantage by a pursuit. The Russian retreat, moreover, was protected by the fire from the heavy guns in position on the Mackenzie heights. The loss sustained by the Russians is estimated at between 5,000 and 6,000 men, including 600 prisoners, while on the part of the allies it does not amount to more than 1,000 men. This brilliant affair has caused the greatest delight among the ranks of the allied army; and while it adds fresh lustre to the gallant achievements of the French arms, it is with the utmost pleasure that I have to record the intrepid conduct and gallant bearing of the Sardinian troops, under General Della Marmora, who have for the first time met, conquered, and shed their blood against our common enemy who is now disturbing the peace of Europe."

The following is Prince Gortchakov's plan of the battle, referred to in General Simpson's despatch, as having been found on the dead body of General Read:—

"Orders for the right wing of the army, commanded by General Read:—1. Composition of the Troops: The 7th division of infantry, 12 battalions. 8th brigade of artillery: battery of position, No. 3, 12 guns; light battery, No. 3, 6 guns; light battery, No. 4, 8 guns; light battery, No. 5, 8 guns. 3 Regiments of the 12th division of infantry, 12 battalions. 14th brigade of artillery: battery of position, No. 3, 12 guns; light

battery, No. 3, 6 guns; light battery, No. 4, 6 guns. 2nd battalion of sharp-shooters, 1 battalion. 1st company of the 2nd battalion of sappers, $\frac{1}{2}$ battalion. 1 regiment of lancers, 8 squadrons. Battery of horse artillery, No. 26, 4 guns. 1 Regiment of Don Cossacks, No. 27, 6 sotnias. Total of General Read's Corps, 25 battalions, 8 squadrons, 6 sotnias, and 62 pieces.—2. On the 15th of August, at nightfall, General Read will descend with all his troops from Mackenzie heights in the track of Lieutenant-General Liprandi, and will form his two divisions into a column upon the height occupied by the new redoubt, near the great road, having on his left the second division commanded by General Liprandi.—3. He will leave all his baggage in the camp, and will have at hand a sufficient number of waggons in which the foot soldiers may deposit their knapsacks. In these waggons he will have placed culinary utensils and brandy. The men must on no account have with them less than four days' provisions, a pound of meat, cans of water, and camp kettles. Each regiment will have a chest of necessary stores, and two ambulance carriages. The remaining ambulance vehicles will be under the orders of General Zouroff, to whom is committed the service of removing the wounded. The cavalry and artillery will take with them whatever forage they need. The best place for depositing this will have to be afterwards determined.—4. The head-quarters of the 16th will be on Mackenzie's heights. General Read, having first concentrated his troops on these heights, will send an officer to the general-in-chief to announce his arrival. On the 16th, during the attack, the general-in-chief will be on the slope of Mackenzie heights, near the new redoubt.—5. At four o'clock on the morning of the 16th, while the 17th division forms on the Telegraph height, General Read will advance, form the 7th and 12th divisions of infantry in order of battle out of range of the enemy, and place the regiment of Lancers in the rear as a reserve, with his Cossacks. He will combine his movement with that of General Liprandi, in advance towards the Tehernaya, so as to be able to cannonade the enemy on the heights of Fediouchine, prepare to cross the river, and finally take possession of the heights of Fediouchine, upon the receipt of orders to that effect. For this purpose he should have near his 7th and 12th divisions of infantry, detachments of sappers and regimental detachments, well exercised beforehand in the use and management of flying bridges, to throw them promptly over the aqueduct, and afford a passage to the infantry and artillery.—6. As soon as orders to advance on the heights of Fediouchine shall be received, the troops are to pass the Tehernaya to the right and left of the bridge; the damage caused by the artillery will be made good by the sappers; the bridges will be thrown under the orders of superior officers commanding the special detachments.—7. Having taken possession of the hills to the left and in the centre, General Read will form in order of battle, having his front turned partly towards Mount Sapoune and partly towards the enemy, covering his troops by artillery in both directions. The mamelons to the right he will occupy with troops of the first line, after driving off the enemy.—8. One of the chief cares of General Read will be to provide that the depth of water in the Tehernaya shall be lowered by the sappers, and the bridges thrown over as quickly as possible, to enable the cavalry and artillery to get across the river without delay.—9. After taking the heights of Fediouchine, General Read will remain there awaiting the orders of the general-in-chief, in the case of an attack on the southern part of Mount Gasforte being judged absolutely necessary.—10. The combat having ended, General Read will take measures for fortifying the heights of Fediouchine.—Major-General GROTFENFELD, Quartermaster-General."

Many incidents of the battle are related by the newspaper correspondents. The following are among the most remarkable.

The first news of an attack was brought about day-break by some French Chasseurs, who, forming part of a patrol, fell into an ambuscade of the Russians, and narrowly escaped, while their comrades were taken prisoners. Soon afterwards the outposts which were across the Tehernaya were driven in, and about day-break the cannonade began. After the outposts were

driven in, the cannonade began on both sides. The Russians did not leave the allies long in doubt where they would attack, for, scarcely had the cannonade begun, when three compact masses of infantry were seen advancing towards the plain opposite to the French position. The points chosen were the bridge and the hillock to the right. The masses, which in the morning sun looked like glittering waves, protected by the fire of their artillery, moved in excellent order down to the river side, notwithstanding the heavy fire of artillery which greeted them in front from the French, and in flank from the Sardinians. At the river the first column detached itself from the rest, and dividing into two columns, crossed the river, which is now nearly everywhere easily fordable. Men carrying movable wooden bridges preceded, but in the first rush the Russians, without waiting for bridges, went over wherever they could, and dispersing like a swarm of bees, rushed forward in columns some against the bridge, the others against the hillock on the right. The first rush did not last more than ten minutes. The Russians fell back, but they had scarcely gone a few hundred yards when they were met by the second column, which was advancing *à pas de charge* to support the first, and both united and again rushed forward. This second attempt was more successful than the first. At the bridge they forded the river on the right and left, and forced the defenders of it to fall back. Scarcely was the bridge free when two guns crossed it, and took up a position on the opposite side in an open space which divides two of the hillocks, and through which the road leads to the plain of Balaklava. While those two guns passed the bridge a third crossed the river by a ford, and all three began to sweep the road and the heights. The infantry in the mean time, without waiting for the portable bridges, which had moreover been thrown away in great part during the advance, rushed breast deep into the water, climbed up the embankment, and began to scale the heights on both sides. They succeeded on this point in getting up more than one-half of the ascent, where the dead and wounded afterwards showed clearly the mark which they reached; but by the time they arrived there the French were fully prepared, and met them in the most gallant style. Notwithstanding the exertions and the perseverance of the Russians, they were by degrees forced back, and driven, after an obstinate resistance, across the bridge, carrying away their guns.—While this attack took place on the bridge the other column again attacked the French right. This time they came on in such a swarm that they were neither kept back by the aqueduct, nor cowed by the Sardinian guns, which were ploughing long lanes through their scattered lines. On they came, as it were, irresistible, and rushed up the steep hill with such fury that the Zouaves, who lined the sides of it, were obliged to fall back for a moment before the multitude. This furious rush brought the advancing column in an incredibly short time to the crest of the hillock, where it stopped to form. But the French had not been idle during the time that the Russians were ascending the hill. The Zouaves had only fallen back from the side of the hillock to the main body, which had been drawn up behind the top. Scarcely did the column of the enemy show its head, when the guns opened on it with grape, and a murderous fire was poured down upon it by the French infantry. This immediately stopped the advance of the column, which began to waver, but the impetus from those behind was so powerful that the head of it, notwithstanding the unexpected reception, was pushed forward a few yards more, when the French, giving one mighty cheer, rushed upon the advancing enemy, who, shaken already, immediately turned round and ran down, if possible, faster than they had come up. But the mass was so great that all the hurry could not save them, and more than 200 prisoners were taken on the spot, while the hill side, the banks of the aqueduct, the aqueduct itself, and the river-side were filled with dead and wounded. The Sardinian and French artillery poured, moreover, a murderous cross-fire into the scattered remains of the column, of which scarcely a shot missed. It was a complete rout. The French rushed down the hillside and drove them far across the plain. This

defeat seems to have so completely cowed them, that nothing more was attempted against this side. Not so on the bridge. Notwithstanding the heavy loss suffered by the second attack, the Russians once more concentrated all their forces, collected the scattered remains of the column which had been routed on the right of the French position, and brought up all their reserves to attempt one more attack. They again crossed the river, and the aqueduct too, and tried to take the heights—but in vain; the French were now thoroughly prepared, and the tenacity of the Russians seemed only to augment their losses. They were soon seen flying in all directions, followed by the French. This last attack was decisive.—The Sardinians, who, with the exception of the little outpost fight on the opposite side of the Tchernaya, had confined themselves to support the French by their admirable artillery, which entirely subdued the Russian fire on the opposite plateaux, began now to move across the aqueduct. The Russian riflemen, after the last defeat on the right, had retired behind the banks of the Tchernaya, whence they kept up a brisk but ineffective fire. A battalion of Piedmontese, preceded by a company of Bersaglieri, advanced in beautiful order as if on parade, and soon drove these riflemen from their position. It even advanced some way towards the plateaux; but, as it was not intended to force the heights, it contented itself, supported by other troops, with following the enemy, who was already in full retreat. Everybody now rushed to the battle-field, and one look was sufficient to convince them that the allies had won a real battle on the Tchernaya. Most of the wounded and dead showed frightful traces of roundshot, grape, shell, and canister, so that as a battle-field one could scarcely imagine anything more terrible. Nearly all the wounds were on the legs and the head. On the banks of the aqueduct particularly the sight was appalling; the Russians when scaling the embankment of the aqueduct were taken in flank by the Sardinian batteries, and the dead and wounded rolled down the embankment, sometimes more than twenty feet in height. The French made every possible despatch to collect the wounded. They were laid on the open space about the bridge until the ambulances arrived. While there the Russians, who could see plainly that the French were engaged in bringing help to their own wretched countrymen, suddenly began to open with their guns upon them, repeating the barbarous practice which they had already often previously shown to the troops. A gentleman who was there at the moment, and who speaks Russian, asked one of the poor fellows who was trying to trudge along with deep flesh wounds on both his thighs, what he thought of the behaviour of the Russians in firing among their own wounded? He answered, "They are accustomed to beat us when we are with them, and there is no wonder that they should try to ill-treat us when we are on the point of escaping their power!"—The prisoners say that even the reserves took part in the action. A soldier who belonged to the last battalion of the reserves, said that before the battle began Prince Gortschakoff, who commanded in person, had a letter of the Emperor read before them, in which he expressed a hope that they would prove as valorous as last year, when they took the heights of Balaklava, and then there was a large distribution of brandy. Not a soldier who had not his bottle lying empty near him, and good-sized bottles they were too. This brandy distribution was, however, only for the infantry, whom they wished to excite to madness. The artillery got only the usual rations.—It is worthy of remark that the greater part of the Russians were old soldiers, scarcely one under thirty. According to the account of the prisoners, most of them came from Bakschi-erai, and they had to attack without resting after their march. They had all large quantities of bread in their foraging sacks hung across their shoulders, but no knapsacks.—Among the killed on the field a Russian general officer was recognised by his uniform; his head had been carried away by a round shot. Another general officer, wounded, was taken to one of the French ambulances. He was in much distress. Speaking in French, he said to a French officer by his side at the ambulance, "This is a sad day of disgrace for Russia, not to have set free

the passage of the Tchernaya, defended by one French division. Another Russian officer, who was made prisoner, and conversed in German, asked, "What was done in front of Sebastopol?" and on being told that nothing important had taken place there, expressed surprise. He afterwards explained that it was understood in the Russian army that simultaneous with the attack to gain the Tchernaya, an assault was to be made by an overpowering force against the French and English works before the Karabulaiia. It is positively asserted by a great number of French officers that the Russians fired grape upon their own men, who were running back after their repulse on the heights. They state that they distinctly saw guns in the rear fired, and the grape shot throw up amongst the fugitives those well-known little puffs of dust which it arises where it strikes.—So great is the tenacity of life which the semi-savage Russian possesses, that in many cases it was difficult to distinguish between the dead and the living. There was one man whose head had been struck by a cannon shot, and all the hinder part carried away, nevertheless he lingered for two days. A number of Russians dead were lying in the river, and in one place where the river was fordable a number of Zouaves and Russians were lying together, all of whom seemed to have been killed by the bayonet. Each Russian soldier carried three days provision with him—one loaf of rye bread, and a paste composed of rye flour and water in a bag by his side.—Judging from the surprise and disgust manifested by the prisoners at their repulse, they seem to have calculated on a most decisive victory. One Russian officer in the hands of our allies fell into a paroxysm of rage and frenzy on hearing the comparatively slight loss on the part of the allies. "Great God," he exclaimed, "is it possible that the choicest troops of Russia are driven back and slaughtered in this manner by a handful of men?" The Russian soldiers seem to have marched to action with a confidence of success. We hear that the priests had given them all absolution immediately before the engagement, and their officers assured them that if they succeeded in crossing the river and gaining the summit of the hill, their enemies would not be able to make any further resistance.—An attempt seems to have been made in the Russian army to supply the want of rifles they laboured under. A number of these new rifles were picked up, and, judging from appearances, they were equally as inefficient and quite as clumsy as their old muskets; they seemed for the most part to have been old muskets, rifled and fitted with a sight after the Liège pattern. Probably there is no army in Europe so badly armed as the Russian. The Turkish army is immeasurably superior. The swords of the Russians seem as if made of the hoops of a barrel; one can bend them easily with the fingers. Then their muskets are long, awkward, unwieldy things, the stocks made of deal, painted black. They have no "half-cock," and their locks are so stiff as almost to require both hands to lift the hammer. The greater part of the muskets and rifles found were marked 1854, so in that branch of home manufacture they have made little progress. The greater part of their great-coats seem to be quite new, and the Russian army seem to have marched and fought under a Crimean sun in the month of August clad in their great coats and long boots.—Every one speaks with the greatest praise of the behaviour of the Sardinian troops. Their artillery rendered immense service, partly by subduing the fire of the enemy's guns in the plateau opposite, partly in crushing the columns of attack by taking them in flank. There was also a battery armed with English position-guns, which kept firing at the Russian artillery on the plateau nearest to the plain. Scarcely a shot missed. Their infantry drove back the Russian riflemen on the banks of the river in the most gallant style. They advanced with the steadiness and precision of old troops, and made their evolutions under the fire of the enemy with as much precision as if they had been on parade. The Sardinians also followed up immediately the retiring enemy, and took several hundred prisoners and wounded. What was most remarkable in all the movements of the Sardinian troops was that quiet self-possession which speaks a great deal for their discipline and organization, they seemed to be so well in hand. This is so much the more

striking, as cholera and fever, which have been ravaging them since their arrival, have been enough to demoralize the best army. The organization and material which could withstand such a shock must be admirable indeed.

The Emperor has addressed the following interesting letter to General Pelissier.

"General—The fresh victory gained at the Tchernaya proves, for the third time since the commencement of the war, the superiority of the allied armies over the enemy in the open field; but if it does honour to the courage of the troops, it evidences no less the good arrangement you had made. Address my congratulations to the army, and receive them also yourself. Tell your brave soldiers, who for more than a year have endured unheard-of fatigues, that the term of their trials is not far distant. Sebastopol, I hope, will soon fall beneath their blows; and were the event delayed, still, the Russian army, I know it through information that appears positive, would no longer be able, during the winter, to maintain the contest in the Crimea. This glory acquired in the East has moved your companions in arms here in France; they all burn to have a part in your dangers. Accordingly, with the twofold object of responding to their noble desire, and of procuring some repose for those who have achieved so much, I have given orders to the Minister of War, that all the regiments remaining in France may proceed in due succession to relieve in the East others which will return. You know, General, how afflicted I have been at being detained away from that army, which has again added to the fame of our eagles; but at this moment my regrets diminish, since you enable me to perceive the speedy and decisive success destined to crown so many heroic efforts. Wherupon, General, I pray God to have you in His holy keeping. Written at the Palace of St. Cloud, August 20, 1855.—NAPOLEON."

Marauding practices in the army have rendered it necessary, after General Simpson to issue the following general orders, after the battle of the 18th ult.

"Aug. 20.—The great want of consideration shown by officers and other persons attached to this army in visiting the scene of a recent action, and plundering the dead, or purchasing plunder from others, has been the subject of grave remonstrance on the part of our allies. All property whatever on the field belongs to the victorious nation; to appropriate anything is dishonest; to purchase from those who have done so is to encourage their dishonesty and share their guilt. The Commander of the Forces hopes that this caution will be sufficient to deter those to whom it is addressed from a repetition of such thoughtless conduct. Followers of the army are reminded that they are amenable to its rules and discipline. The police and provosts will in future receive orders to punish offenders on these occasions in the most summary manner."

"August 21.—The Commander of the Forces regrets that he has to notice, in terms of marked displeasure, an outrage that was committed on the 17th inst. in the camp of the Fourth Division, the perpetrators of which, to the discredit of the army, are still undiscovered. A number of soldiers, assembled under the pretence of pursuing a supposed spy, destroyed the tent of a canteen keeper, plundered its contents, including a considerable sum of money, and escaped in the darkness. By the articles of war, the punishment of such a crime is a disgraceful death. The soldiers of this army have met their enemies nobly in the field—they have endured hardship and danger with admirable fortitude. Let them not forfeit their high character by reckless disorders in camp, or by such discreditable breaches of discipline as that now published."

The culinary services of Monsieur Soyer have been very great, and their value has been duly acknowledged. The correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 1st inst. describes the opening of M. Soyer's hospital kitchens and "training establishment," near the camp of the Guards. "This inaugurate ceremony came off on Monday last, in presence of a numerous and distinguished assemblage of English and French military magnificoes. Of these it is sufficient to mention the Duke of Newcastle, General Simpson, General Pelissier and, I believe, nearly every one of our divisional and

brigade commanders, besides a pretty fair sprinkling of Crimean heroines, who looked as blooming and sprightly as if they had been taking part in a picnic at Aldershot or Chobham. In presence of his distinguished company the great *chef* performed some remarkable artistic feats with portions of the ordinary commissariat ration fare, out of which, and in a very short time, he produced gastronomic results which certainly surprised everybody. The cooking apparatus made use of was one of his newly-invented open-air hospital kitchens, which for simplicity of construction and economy of fuel appears to be the *ne plus ultra* of mechanical contrivance. On this last feature of his kitchens M. Soyer dilated with well-deserved force, showing how with one of these stoves the food of 120 men may be prepared with no greater expenditure of wood or charcoal than, under the old and present clumsy and wasteful systems, is incurred in cooking for a twelfth part of that number. The Duke of Newcastle appeared to be specially interested in the proceedings, and, at their close, expressed to M. Soyer his great interest in, and his unqualified satisfaction with, all he had heard and witnessed. General Simpson was no less complimentary, and General Pelissier gave the *chef* a most flattering written acknowledgment of the satisfaction with which he too had observed the experiments, and listened to an exposition of how readily and usefully the system may be applied to the entire cookery of the army. The object of this establishment—consisting of a marquee and some half-a-dozen of bell-tents—is to cool for the hospitals of the adjoining First Division, and train a couple of cooks from each of the regiments now in camp, who shall again instruct others, till each company shall have its own cook, and thus be saved from a recurrence of the thousand discomforts resulting last winter from the old practice of each man preparing his own food. If this reform be fully carried out, it will form one of the greatest source of comforts to the troops throughout the whole of the winter months, and will associate M. Soyer's name with one of the greatest improvements by which the army is likely to benefit."

The events between the battle of the Tchernaya, and the combined attack, on the 8th instant, by the Allies on the Malakoff and Redan, which immediately preceded the fall of Sebastopol, may be briefly summed up.

The battle of the Tchernaya was followed by the construction of a raft bridge by the enemy across the great harbour,—a work which he had completed on the 28th August, and had used to reinforce the garrison of the southern side. For several days the Allies were kept on the alert on the Tchernaya, lest the enemy should pay them another sudden visit. The Highland brigade were sent down from the front to reinforce the Sardinians; and the cavalry and fifty guns were held in readiness to act on the first appearance of the enemy. But he did not appear; apprehensions on that score ceased; and the Highlanders were moved back to the front. Meanwhile, the enormous preparations for the bombardment went on silently, secretly, and well; and every hour brought the fatal moment nearer. The French had pushed forward their sap, it is said, to the very edge of the ditch round the Malakoff; but on the 1st September the English were 150 yards from the salient of the Redan. A heavy fire covered the working-parties, whose picking and shovelling and piling of sand-bags and gabions were much hindered by the brightness of the nights. By accident, a Russian shell, falling on some powder carelessly scattered in the Mamelon, set fire to the great magazine there, and blew it up, killing and wounding several officers and men, but doing no damage to the batteries. The enemy also made a clever sortie, and destroyed some gabions on the advanced parallel of the right attack. But these small incidents did not materially impede the progress of the works. The enemy concentrated his troops between Fort Constantine and the Mackenzie heights. On the bridge there was incessant movement of horse, foot, and stores. Rumours reached the Allied Generals of insubordination in Sebastopol—of mutiny and the shooting of officers and men; and it is said that the wounded were sent by a long détour to Backshisrai, to avoid the camp, so that the troops might not be discouraged by the numbers. The

enemy also threw up more earthworks on the north side, with embrasures for guns. In the Allied camp it was felt that the crisis of the siege was near at hand. At length, the dawn of the 5th September saw the opening of the fire from our mortar-batteries. It was thence-forward continued without cessation by day and by night. The bombardment seems to have been carried on by a horizontal fire of artillery and a vertical fire of mortars. But besides the terrible array of land-batteries opposed to the east face, there were six English and six French mortar-boats firing shells from Streletska Bay into the Forts Quarantine and Alexander. On the night of the 5th, a shell set fire to a frigate in the harbour, and the light of the blazing vessel illuminated the whole camp. On the 7th, another ship was set on fire, and burnt to the water's edge. The Russians seem to have replied to the "infernal fire" of the Allies with considerable animation; but the awful explosions that broke forth here and there behind the earthworks told how effectively the Allies pitched their missiles into the Russian magazines. On the 8th, it was determined that the enemy's works should be stormed; and accordingly, a simultaneous attack was made by the French on the Little Redan, which lies on the proper left of the Malakoff itself, while the English directed their efforts against the Great Redan.

The results of these assaults, and the events which ensued, are detailed in the following despatches of the English and French commanders.

Despatch from General Simpson, dated Sept. 9:—
"My lord, I had the honour to apprise your lordship in my despatch of the 4th inst. that the engineer and artillery officers of the allied armies had laid before General Pelissier and myself a report recommending that the assault should be given on the 8th inst., after a heavy fire had been kept up for three days. This arrangement I agreed to, and I have to congratulate your lordship on the glorious results of the attack of yesterday, which has ended in the possession of the town, dockyards, and public buildings, and destruction of the last ships of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea. Three steamers alone remain, and the capture or sinking of these must speedily follow. It was arranged that at 12 o'clock in the day the French columns of assault were to leave their trenches, and take possession of the Malakoff and adjacent works. After their success had been assured and they were fairly established, the Redan was to be assaulted by the English; the Bastion, Central, and Quarantine Forts, on the left, were simultaneously to be attacked by the French. At the hour appointed our allies quitted their trenches, entered and carried the apparently impregnable defences of the Malakoff with that impetuous valour which characterises the French attack, and having once obtained possession, they were never dislodged. The tricolor planted on the parapet was the signal for our troops to advance. The arrangements for the attack I intrusted to Lieutenant-General Sir William Codrington, who carried out the details in concert with Lieutenant-General Markham. I determined that the Second and Light divisions should have the honour of the assault, from the circumstance of their having defended the batteries and approaches against the Iedan for so many months, and from the intimate knowledge they possessed of the ground. The fire of our artillery having made as much of a breach as possible in the salient of the Redan, I decided that the columns of assault should be directed against that part, as being less exposed to the heavy flanking fire by which this work is protected. It was arranged between Sir W. Codrington and Lieutenant-General Markham that the assaulting column of 1000 men should be formed by equal numbers of these two divisions, the column of the Light Division to lead, that of the Second to follow. They left the trenches at the preconcerted signal, and moved across the ground preceded by a covering party of 200 men, and a ladder party of 320. On arriving at the crest of the ditch, and the ladders placed, the men immediately stormed the parapet of the Redan, and penetrated into the salient angle. A most determined and bloody contest was here maintained for nearly an hour, and, although supported to the utmost, and the greatest bravery displayed, it was found impossible to maintain the position. Your Lordship will perceive, by the long and

sad list of casualties, with what gallantry and self-devotion the officers so nobly placed themselves at the head of their men during this sanguinary conflict. I feel myself unable to express in adequate terms the sense I entertain of the conduct and gallantry exhibited by the troops, though their devotion was not rewarded by the success which they so well merited; but to no one are my thanks more justly due than to Colonel Windham, who gallantly headed his column of attack, and was fortunate in entering and remaining with the troops during the contest. The trenches were, subsequently to this attack, so crowded with troops that I was unable to organize a second assault, which I intended to make with the Highlanders, under Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell, who had hitherto formed the reserve, to be supported by the Third Division, under Major-General Sir William Eyre. I therefore sent for these officers, and arranged with them to renew the attack the following morning. The Highland Brigade occupied the advanced trenches during the night. About 11 o'clock the enemy commenced exploding their magazines, and Sir Colin Campbell, having ordered a small party to advance cautiously to examine the Redan, found the work abandoned; he did not, however, deem it necessary to occupy it until daylight. The evacuation of the town by the enemy was made manifest during the night. Great fires appeared in every part, accompanied by large explosions, under the cover of which the enemy succeeded in withdrawing their troops to the north side by means of the raft-bridge recently constructed, and which they afterwards disconnected and conveyed to the other side. Their men-of-war were all sunk during the night. The boisterous weather rendered it altogether impossible for the Admirals to fulfil their intention of bringing the broadsides of the allied fleets to bear upon the Quarantine Batteries; but an excellent effect was produced by the animated and well-directed fire of their mortar vessels, those of her majesty being under the direction of Captain Wilcox, of the Odin, and Captain Dighy, of the Royal Marine Artillery. It now becomes my pleasing duty, my lord, to place on record the high sense I entertain of the conduct of this army since I have had the honour to command it. The hardships and privations endured by many of the regiments during a long winter campaign are too well known for me to comment upon. They were borne both by officers and men with a patience and unmurmuring endurance worthy of the highest praise, and which gained them the deserved applause and sympathy of their country. The Naval Brigade, under the command of Captain the Hon. Henry Keppel, aided by Captain Moorsom and many gallant officers and seamen who have served the guns from the commencement of the siege, merit my warmest thanks. The prompt, hearty, and efficacious co-operation of her majesty's navy, commanded by Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, and ably seconded by Sir Houston Stewart, has contributed most materially to the success of our undertaking; and here, perhaps, I may be permitted to say that, if it had pleased God that the successful result of this memorable siege should have been reported by my ever-to-be-lamented predecessor in this command, I am sure that it would have been one of his most pleasing duties to express the deep sense which I know he entertained of the invaluable assistance and counsel he received on all occasions from Sir Edmund Lyons. When at times affairs looked gloomy and success doubtful, he was at hand to cheer and encourage; and every assistance that could tend to advance the operations was given with the hearty good-will which characterises the British sailor. Nothing has contributed more to the present undertaking than the cordial co-operation which has so happily existed from the first between the two services. I cannot sufficiently express my approbation of the conduct of the Royal Engineers under Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Jones, who has conducted the siege operations from the beginning of this year. For some time past he has been suffering on a bed of sickness, but the eventful hour of the assault would not permit him to remain absent; he was conveyed on a litter into the trenches to witness the completion of his arduous undertakings. My warmest thanks are due to the officers

and soldiers of the Royal Artillery, under the command of Major-General Sir R. Daer, who, during the arduous operations of this protracted siege, have so mainly contributed to its ultimate success. I must beg further to record my thanks for the cordial co-operation and assistance I have received in carrying out the details of the service from the chief of the staff, the adjutant and quartermaster-generals, and general staff, as well as generals commanding divisions and brigades of this army. I must reserve to myself, for the subject of a future despatch, bringing before your lordship the particular mention of officers of the various branches of this army whom I shall beg to recommend to your favourable notice. I intrust this despatch to the care of Brevet-Major the Hon. Leicester Curzon, who has been Assistant Military Secretary to my noble predecessor and myself since the commencement of this war, and who will be able to give your lordship more minute details than the limits of a despatch will allow."

KILLED. 30th Foot—Lieut.-Col. Patullo; Capt. J. C. N. Stevenson; Ensign R. G. Dean, 55th Foot—Brevet-Lieut.-Col. W. A. Cuddy, 41st Foot—Cpts. E. Every and J. H. Lockhart, 49th Foot—Capt. G. Rochfort, 62nd Foot—Capt. L. A. Cox; Lieut. L. Blakiston, 7th Foot—Lieuts. L. L. Wright and O. Colt, 23rd Foot—Lieuts. R. H. Somerville and D. Dyneley, 33rd Foot—Lieut. R. G. Donovan, 77th Foot—Capt. W. Parker, 88th Foot—Capt. H. W. Grogan, 90th Foot—Capt. H. Preston; Lieuts. A. D. Swift and H. F. Wilmar, 97th Foot—Lieut.-Col. Hon. H. R. Hancock; Major A. F. Welsford; Lieut. A. B. McGregor, *Rifle Brigade*—Capt. M. M. Hammond, 2nd Battalion, *Rifle Brigade*—Lieut. H. S. Ryder, *Field Train Department*—Dep.-Assist.-Commissary W. Hayter.

DANGEROUSLY WOUNDED. *Royal Sappers and Miners*—Capt. C. H. Sedley, 20th Foot—Brevet-Major S. R. Chapman, Assistant-Engineer, 17th Foot—Lieuts. W. D. Thompson and R. Swire, A.D.C., 1st Foot—Capt. W. J. Gillum, 3rd Foot—Major F. F. Maude; Ensign H. Peachey, 30th Foot—Lieut. W. Kerr, 41st Foot—Lieut. J. Eman, C.B., 49th Foot—Ensign C. Michell, 7th Foot—Lieut. H. M. Jones, 19th Foot—Lieuts. P. Godfrey, A. Gore, and W. G. D. Massy, 23rd Foot—Capt. W. H. Poole; Lieuts. L. O'Connor, C. Beck, and E. S. Holden, 33rd Foot—Lieut.-Col. T. B. Gough, 97th Foot—Capt. C. H. Lumley.

SEVERELY WOUNDED. *Royal Sappers and Miners*—Lieut. H. C. Elphinstone, 63rd Foot—Lieut.-Col. P. Lindsay, 47th Foot—Capt. and Brevet-Major W. F. G. Rooke, 55th Foot—Lieut. G. A. Morgan, A.D.C., 1st Foot—Lieuts. R. L. Williams and R. B. Caton, 3rd Foot—Ensign A. B. Lets, 30th Foot—Capt. G. F. C. Pocock; Lieuts. M. B. Field and G. H. Sanders, 55th Foot—Major A. C. Cure; Capts. R. Hume and J. R. Hume; Lieut. W. B. Johnson, 41st Foot—Lieut. F. Kingscote, 49th Foot—Brevet-Major J. H. King, 62d Foot—Lieut.-Col. L. B. Tyler; Lieut. W. B. Davenport, 7th Foot—Capt. H. P. Hibbert; Brevet-Lieut.-Col. J. R. Heyland; Capt. J. F. Illickie, 19th Foot—Lieut.-Col. J. Unett (very severely); Lieut. R. Molesworth; Ensigns R. C. Martin and W. W. Young, 23rd Foot—Col. D. Lyons, C.B.; Capt. F. F. Vane; Lieuts. L. E. Millett, J. Williamson, F. M. H. Dare, and J. D. Vic. Tupper, 23rd Foot—Lieut. J. Trent, 44th Foot—Lieuts. J. D. Laurie and N. A. Harris, 77th Foot—Capt. F. J. Butts, 88th Foot—Lieut. G. J. Maxwell, C.B.; Capts. B. B. Mauleverer and G. R. Beresford; Lieuts. W. Lambert, E. Hopton, L. C. Scott, and G. S. Watson; Ensign G. Walker, 90th Foot—Cpts. R. Grove, W. P. Tinling, and J. H. Wade; Lieuts. J. C. Rattray, S. C. Pigott, Bart., P. J. Deverill, and H. H. Gooderick, 97th Foot—Capt. R. F. W. Sibthorp; Lieut. R. C. Goodenough, *Royal Artillery*—Capt. A. C. L. Fitzroy; Lieuts. R. H. Champiou and C. J. Tyler.

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED. 17th Foot—Lieut. W. H. Parker, 55th Foot—Brig.-Gen. C. Warren, C.B., *Unattached*—Assist.-Quart.-Gen. Hon. P. E. Herbert, C.B., 1st Foot—Lieut. Hon. T. O. W. Plunkett, 3rd Foot—Capts. C. Hood and P. J. Dunbar; Lieut. J. A. Cox, 30th Foot—Lieut.-Col. J. T. Mauleverer, C.B.; Brevet-Major A. Campbell; Lieuts. A. J. Austin and C. J. Moorsom, 55th Foot—Capt. W. S. Richards, 95th

Foot—Capt. J. N. Sargent; Lieut. C. F. Parkinson.
41st Foot—Major R. Platt; Capt. H. Rolands; Lieut. R. E. Maude; Lieut. and Adj. J. A. Hamilton.
62d Foot—Capt. E. H. Hunter; Lieut. W. Dring.
7th Foot—Brevet-Major W. W. Turner.
19th Foot—Brevet-Major R. Warden; Capt. E. Chippendall; Lieut. E. W. R. Bayley.
23rd Foot—Lieuts. S. G. Prevost and H. D. Radcliffe.
33rd Foot—Capt. H. D. Ellis; Lieut. C. W. Willis; Ensign and Adj. G. Toseland.
77th Foot—Lieut. G. E. Leggett.
90th Foot—Capt. J. A. Perrin; Lieuts. H. J. Haydock, W. J. Rous, and N. Grahame.
97th Foot—Capt. G. H. Woods; Lieuts. M. G. B. Fitzgerald and C. H. Browne; Ensign J. E. D. Hill.
2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade—Major C. Woodford; Capt. Hon. B. R. Pellew; Lieuts. H. Eyre, F. A. Ryley, W. H. Eccles, J. C. Moore, R. Borough, and F. C. Playne.
3rd Foot—Brig.-Gen. C. Van Straubenzee.
88th Foot—Brig.-Gen. H. Shirley, C.B.

SEVERELY CONTUSED. *77th Foot*—Lieuts. C. E. Knowles and M. A. Waters.

MISSING. *62nd Foot*—Lieut. H. A. Palmer.
90th Foot—Capt. H. M. Vaughan.
97th Foot—Capt. J. Hutton.

Despatch from Admiral Sir E. Lyons, dated September 10:—

"Sir.—Of the operations on shore, which have produced the successful result of the singular and memorable siege of Sebastopol, her majesty's government will be informed by General Simpson; but it is my duty to report to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty what has taken place afloat and on the seaboard under my own observation. It had been arranged by Generals Simpson and Pelissier, Admiral Bruat and myself, that precisely at noon on the 8th inst. the allied fleets should open fire upon the Quarantine batteries that enfiladed the approach of the assaulting columns; but, unfortunately, the weather, which had been fine for some days, changed on the morning of the attack, and a north-west gale and heavy sea rendered it impossible for any vessels to act upon batteries situated on the lee shore of this exposed roadstead. It will, however, appear by the enclosed reports from Captain Willcox, of the Odin, and Captain Digby, of the Royal Marine Artillery (whom, as well as the junior officers mentioned by them, I beg leave particularly to recommend to the favourable consideration of their lordships), that the mortar-vessels attached to the fleets kept up a very effective fire from their position in the bay of Strelitzka. As the day closed, things in the harbour seemed to be in the same state as they were in the morning, but during the night several heavy explosions were heard, and at dawn we observed that the fortifications on the south side were in flames, and that the six remaining ships-of-the-line had been sunk at their moorings, leaving afloat no more of the late Russian Black Sea fleet than two dismasted corvettes and nine steamers, most of which are very small. Soon afterwards the enemy were seen retreating across the newly-constructed bridge, until the south side of the harbour, on which the naval and military arsenals, the public buildings, and the town of Sebastopol are situated, appeared to be completely evacuated, and then the southern portion of the bridge was hauled over to the north shore. It is now my pleasing duty to render justice to the admirable conduct of all whom I have had the honour and happiness to command during the last nine months of this arduous struggle, and whose duties I shared in before; for, although, with the exception of the Naval Brigade in the camp, whose gallant bearing from the beginning under the command of Sir Stephen Lushington has been beyond all praise, and never more so than during the last two bombardments under the command of the Hon. Captain Keppel, it has not fallen to the lot of the navy on this occasion to perform distinguished deeds of arms, such as those of their gallant brethren in the army; still, while straining every nerve, night and day, under very trying circumstances, to supply the means for carrying on the siege, in the glory of which they could not share, the generous cheer of encouragement, unalloyed by envy, has always been heartily given in the day of triumph; nor have sympathy and assistance ever been wanting in the hour of distress and suffering. The same sentiments have pervaded all ranks—captains, officers, seamen, and marines, all agree-

ing with each other in following, as I believe I have said once before, the excellent example set them by my able second in command and coadjutor, Rear-Admiral Houston Stewart. Perhaps in closing this letter I may be permitted to indulge in the expression of the gratification I feel in reflecting that, under all the circumstances to which it relates, my gallant colleague Vice-Admiral Bruat and I have gone heart and hand together, and that the most perfect understanding and hearty co-operation in the great cause of humanity in which we are all engaged have invariably prevailed throughout both fleets."

Sir E. Lyons also forwarded a letter from Captain the Hon. Henry Keppel, dated the 9th, and reporting the proceedings of the Naval Brigade on the 7th and 8th. Captain Keppell says:—

"I have the honour to inform you that, in pursuance of instructions, a vigorous fire was opened from the batteries at 6 o'clock on the morning of the 7th, and was maintained throughout the day; the fire was recommenced yesterday morning with increased vigour, preparatory to an assault to be made by our allies on the Malakhoff, and subsequently by ourselves on the Redan. At noon the French were observed to start *en masse* from their trenches, and possess themselves in gallant style of the Malakhoff Battery, on which the tricolor flag was hoisted, and the imperial eagle, planted within 10 minutes of their quitting their trenches. The French flag was no sooner displayed on the Malakhoff than our storming party issued from their trenches and assailed the salient angle of the Redan, but the enemy were by that time prepared to meet them, and as the supporting party advanced, a heavy fire of grape and canister was opened on them, in spite of a brisk fire kept up from our batteries on all parts of the Redan not assailed, as well as on the flanking batteries. After maintaining the footing they had gained for some time, our troops were obliged to retire, the killed and wounded left on the ground sufficiently testifying how gallantly they had fought. The fire from our batteries was kept up until dark, and at about 11 o'clock the enemy evacuated the Redan, after having fired a train that exploded the magazines. This morning's light showed how successful and complete had been the victory gained by the allied forces. The enemy had evacuated all their positions on the south side of the harbour; the town, Fort Nicholai, Fort Paul, and the dockyard, were in flames, and their line-of-battle ships had been sunk in the positions they were last seen in when at anchor."

The following despatch from Marshal Pelissier, addressed to the Minister of War, is dated September 11.

"M. le Maréchal,—I shall have the honour to send you by the next courier a detailed report of the attack which has placed Sebastopol in our power. To-day I can only give you a rapid sketch of the principal achievement of this great event of the war. Since the 16th of August, the day of the battle of the Tchernaya, and notwithstanding repeated warnings of a new and more formidable attack by the enemy against the positions which we occupy on this river, every preparation was made to deliver a decisive assault against Sebastopol itself. The artillery of the right attack commenced on the 17th of August a well-sustained fire against the Malakhoff, the Little Redan, the neighbouring defences, and the roads, in order to permit our engineers to establish defences close to the place, from which the troops might be able instantly to throw themselves upon the *enceinte*. Our engineers besides prepared materials for escalade, and on the 5th of Sept. all our batteries of the left opened a very violent fire against the town. The English on their side kept up a hot cannonade against the Great Redan and its redoubt, which they were to attack. All being ready, I resolved, in concert with General Simpson, to give the assault on the 8th of Sept., at the hour of noon. General M'Mahon's division was to carry the works of the Malakhoff; General Dulac's division was to attack the Little Redan; and in the centre the division of General La Motterouge was to march against the curtain connecting these two extreme points. Besides these troops, I had given to General Bosquet, General Mellinet's division of the Guards, to support the first three divisions. Thus far for the right. In the centre the

English were to attack the Great Redan, escalading it at its salient. On the left the 1st Corps, to which General de la Marmora had wished to join a Sardinian brigade, having at its head General Levaillant's division, was to penetrate into the interior of the town by the Central Bastion, and afterwards turn the Flagstaff Bastion in order to establish lodgment there likewise. General de Salles had instructions not to pursue his attack further than circumstances might render it advisable. Farther, the fleets of Admiral Lyons and Brutet were to operate a powerful diversion by firing against the Quarantine, the Roadstead, and the sea front of the fortress; but the state of the sea, agitated by a violent north-west wind, was such that neither the line-of-battle ships nor the frigates were able to quit their anchorage. The English and French mortar boats, however, were able to go into action. Their fire was of remarkable excellence, and they rendered us great assistance. At noon exactly the divisions of Generals M'Mahon, La Motterouge, and Dulac, electrified by their chiefs, sprang to the Malakhoff, the Curtain, and the Little Redan of the Careenage. After unexampled difficulties, and a most exciting foot to foot combat, General M'Mahon's division succeeded in effecting a lodgment in the anterior part of the Malakhoff. The enemy showered down a storm of projectiles of all kinds upon our brave troops. The Redan of the Careenage, especially battered by the *maison en croix* and the steamers, it was necessary to evacuate after its occupation; but the division of General La Motterouge made its ground good on one part of the curtain, and that of General M'Mahon gained ground in the Malakhoff, where General Bosquet sent continually the reserves which I sent forward to him. The other attacks were subordinated to that of the Malakhoff, that being the capital point of the defences of the whole place. Standing in the Brancion Redoubt (on the Mamelon), I considered that the Malakhoff was safely in our power, and I gave the signal which had been agreed upon with General Simpson. The English immediately advanced bravely against the salient of the Great Redan. They were able to effect a lodgment in it, and struggled a considerable time to maintain their position, but, crushed by the Russian reserves, which advanced incessantly, and by a violent fire of artillery, they were forced to return into their parallel. At the same moment General de Salles had directed an attack against the Central Bastion. The Levaillant division had begun to establish itself in it, as well as in the Right Lunette; a tremendous fire of grape was succeeded by the arrival of Russian reinforcements so considerable in number, that our troops, already decimated by the fire of the enemy, and whose chiefs had been disabled, were compelled to fall back on the place whence they had sallied. Convinced that the taking of the Malakhoff would be decisive of success, I prevented the renewal of any attacks on other points, which, by compelling the hostile army to remain on all its points, had already attained their main object. I then directed my sole attention to the retaining possession of the Malakhoff, which General M'Mahon had been previously enabled completely to obtain. Besides, a great and critical moment was impending. Bosquet had just been struck by the bursting of a shell, and his command I gave to General Dulac. A powder magazine near the Malakhoff exploded at this moment, from which contingency I anticipated the most serious results. The Russians, hoping to profit by this accident, immediately advanced in dense masses, and, disposed in three columns, simultaneously attacked the centre, the left, and the right of the Malakhoff. But measures of defence had already been taken in the interior of the fortress; for which purpose General M'Mahon opposed to the enemy bodies of undaunted troops, whom nothing could intimidate; and after the most desperate efforts the Russians were compelled to make a precipitate retreat. From that moment the discomfited enemy appears to have renounced all idea of further attack. The Malakhoff was ours, and no effort of the enemy could wrest it from us. It was half-past four o'clock. Measures were immediately taken for enabling us to repulse the enemy, in case he should attempt against us a nocturnal attack. But we were soon released from our uncertainty. As

soon as it became night, fires burst forth on every side, mines exploded, magazines of gunpowder exploded in the air. The sight of Sebastopol in flames, which the whole army contemplated, was one of the most awe-inspiring and sinister pictures that the history of wars can have presented. The enemy was making a complete evacuation; it was effected during the night by means of a bridge constructed between the two shores of the roadstead, and under cover of the successive explosions that prevented me from approaching and harassing him. On the morning of the 9th the whole southern side of the town was freed, and in our power. I have no need of enhancing in the eyes of your Excellency the importance of so great a success. Neither will it be necessary for me to speak of this brave army, whose warlike virtues and devotion are so thoroughly appreciated by our Emperor; and I shall have, great as the number is, to name to you those who have distinguished themselves among so many valiant soldiers. I cannot yet do so, but I shall fulfil this duty in one of my next despatches. Deign to accept, Monsieur le Maréchal, the expression of my respectful devotion.—The General in Chief, PELINSIER."

A despatch, also dated Sept. 11, from General Niel, commanding the Engineers of the French army, contains a very lucid account of the dispositions which had been made for the combined attack on the Malakhoff and the manner in which the arrangements were carried into execution. It is as follows:—

"Monsieur le Maréchal,—The place of Sebastopol was stormed on the 8th of September. That assault has rendered us masters of the Malakhoff work, the occupation of which renders the defence of the suburb almost impossible, and enables us to cut off the communications of the town with the north part of the roadstead. After rallying several times, and resuming the offensive with a courage to which we are bound to do homage, seeing that his utmost efforts remained fruitless, he began during the evening to evacuate the town; during the night he set it on fire, and he employed his powder in destroying with his own hands the defensive works and the great establishments which Russia had been accumulating for so many years in this fortress. He sunk all his ships, frigates, and other sailing vessels, preserving only the steamers; lastly, he broke up, and pulled after him the bridge of boats by which he communicated with the forts of the north side, abandoning to us in this way the town, suburb, and everything else on the south side of the roadstead. The defence was energetic; on several points our attacks were repulsed; but the chief attack, that which ensured our success, was not doubtful for an instant. The 1st division of the 1st corps, commanded at present by Gen. M'Mahon, carried at the first onset the Malakhoff work, and there maintained itself heroically, understanding that it held in its hand the keys of the place. I am going to give you an account of the dispositions that had been taken for diminishing as much as possible the numerous difficulties attending this terrible assault, made, not on a place invested, on a limited garrison, but on a vast fortress, defended by an army equally numerous, perhaps with that which attacked it. In the attacks against the town our approaches had been carried to within forty metres of the Central Bastion, and thirty metres of the Flag-staff Bastion. At the attacks of the Karabalaia suburb, the English, impeded by the difficulties of the ground, and by the fire of the enemy's artillery, had only been able to advance their approaches to about 200 metres from the salient of the Great Redan. Before the front of the Malakhoff we had arrived to within 25 metres of the *enceinte* which surrounds the tower, and had carried our approaches to the same distance of the Little Redan of the Careenage. This important result was due to the uncontested superiority of our artillery over that of the enemy. The generals-in-chief of the allied armies had made the following arrangements:—The general attack of the place was fixed for the 8th September at noon. On the morning of the 5th the artillery of the attacks against the town and that of the English attacks, who until then had husbanded their fire, were to resume it with great energy. Such a cannonade was never heard. We had mounted in our two attacks

more than 500 cannons. The English had about 200, and the Russians more than we. The fire of the enemy damaged our trenches, but did us little harm. Ours, notwithstanding the great extent of the place, converged on it, and must have caused immense loss to the Russian army. During the last days which preceded the assault our infantry fatigue parties were principally employed in enlarging the most advanced *place d'armes* and the defiles, and in carrying to the spot the means of crossing the ditches. The aim of all our efforts was the capture of the work constructed behind the Malakhoff Tower. This work (called the Korniloff Redoubt by the Russians), which is an immense redoubt, a kind of citadel of earth, occupies a mamelon which commands all the interior of the Karabelna suburb, takes the Redan attacked by the English *de revers*, and is only 1,200 metres from the south port, on which the Russians had constructed a bridge of rafts, now their only communication between the suburb and the town. The Malakhoff Fort is 350 metres by 150 metres in dimensions. The parapets have more than six metres of relief above the soil, and in front of them is a ditch which before our attacks was six metres in depth and seven in width. It was armed with 62 guns of various calibres. In the front part, enclosed by the parapet, is the Malakhoff Tower, of which the Russians have only preserved the *rez de chaussée*, which is crenellated. In the interior of the work the Russians had raised a vast number of traverses, under which were excellent blindages where the garrison found shelter, and had beds arranged on each side in two rows, one above the other. A Russian officer of engineers, who was made prisoner, states that the garrison of this part of the Malakhoff, which I have just described in order that you may judge of the difficulties which our soldiers had to surmount, consisted of not less than 2,500 men. The Malakhoff front, which is a thousand metres in length, is bounded on our left by Fort Malakhoff, and on our right by the Little Redan. This last work, which, at the commencement of the siege, was only a simple redan, was transformed little by little into a redoubt, closed at the gorge and heavily armed. The exterior fronts of the two redoubts of Malakhoff and the Careenage were connected by a curtain armed with 16 cannons; and behind the *enceinte* the Russians had raised a second, which connected the fronts of the gorges of the two redoubts. This second *enceinte*, armed in part, had not, however, a ditch presenting a serious obstacle. The rocky nature of the soil had hindered the enemy from excavating everywhere equally the ditch of the first curtain and of the Little Redan, and on several points the troops were able to pass it without much difficulty. For passing the ditches, which had a considerable depth, we had contrived a system of bridges which could be thrown in less than a minute by an ingenious manœuvre, to which our sappers and soldiers *d'élite* had been trained. The French artillery was so superior to that of the Russians that it had extinguished the fire of nearly all the guns pointed directly at our attacks. The filled-up embrasures relieved us from the fear that our columns might be assailed by grape as they issued from the trenches. The parapets were destroyed and a part of the earth had rolled into the ditch. Finally, the Malakhoff Fort had been assailed by so large a number of shells, thrown from our batteries and those of the English, that the guns which did not look directly upon our attacks had their embrasures also filled up, and everywhere the *terrassements* had lost their original form. But, behind the defences situated in the first line, the Russians had preserved a large number of pieces, which we could not *contre-battre* completely, and the columns which proceeded to attack the Malakhoff were exposed to the fire of numerous batteries which the Russians had raised to the north of the roadstead, and which, though fired from a great distance, were nevertheless dangerous. You are aware that ever since my arrival before Sebastopol I was decidedly of opinion that the true point of attack was the tower or mamelon of Malakhoff, and that this opinion having been adopted by General Canrobert, those attacks of the right were undertaken, which were executed by the 2nd corps. From the side of the town we had been content to ex-

tend towards the left the approaches executed by the 1st corps. Taking things at the point where they stood when the assault was resolved on, there was no doubt that the possession of the Malakhoff fort would lead to a decisive result; and on the other hand, it was to be presumed that if a failure took place on this point, success obtained elsewhere could not lead to great results. However, it was not proper to attack a place so extended upon one single point. It was necessary to obtain that division of the enemy's forces which resulted from the great development of the *enceinte* that he had to defend, and especially to make him uneasy about the town, to which the bridge led whereby he might make his retreat. It was to satisfy these various considerations, it was to ensure success, while economising as much as possible the blood of our soldiers in the terrible struggle then preparing, that the General-in-Chief decided that the assault should first be made on the front of the Malakhoff; that if this attack, which would be made under his personal inspection, should succeed, then at his signal the English should attack the Redan and the first portion of the town, so as to prevent the enemy's concentrating all his efforts against the troops that should have already taken possession of the Malakhoff Fort. The front of the Malakhoff was to be attacked by three columns: the one on the left, commanded by General de M-Mahon, moving in a straight line on the Malakhoff Fort by the front that faced us, and in turning it slightly on the right hand, had for its task the taking and keeping of it, cost what it might; the right column, Dulac's division, was to march against the Redan of the Careening Bay, to occupy it, and detach a brigade on its left, in order to turn the second enclosure; lastly, the central column, being the division of La Motterouge, issuing from the sixth parallel, having a longer extent of ground to pass over, and arriving a little later, was to carry the curtain, to proceed then against the second enclosure, and send one of its brigades to the assistance of the first column, if this latter should have not yet gained possession of the Malakhoff Fort. Such was the importance of these positions that we could not doubt that the enemy, if he lost them, would make great efforts to retake them. In consequence, the troops of the Imperial Guard were given as a reserve to the 2nd corps. The chief of the Engineer Battalion Ragon, having under his orders several brigades of sappers, marching with the first column, had to throw bridges across the ditches, see after the mines, open everywhere a passage to the columns, and as soon as these should be masters of the fort, to close it at the gorge; and in order to oppose any rallying attack in return, to open in the rear large passages for the arrival of the troops and the artillery. The chief of the engineer battalion, Renoux, attached to the right column, and Captain Schœnengal, attached to the central column, having also brigades of sappers under their orders, had to fulfil an analogous mission. All the arrangements concerning the duty of the engineers in the attacks to be made on the Malakhoff had been made by the General of Brigade Frossard, commanding the engineers of the 2nd corps. In attacking the town, in order to avoid the obstacles accumulated by the enemy at the salient of the Flagstaff Bastion, it had been decided that the principal assault should be given at the Central Bastion, between its salient and the lunette on the left; that the assaulting column, as soon as it should be established within the Central Bastion, should detach a part of its forces towards the gorge of the Flagstaff Batterie, whose right face should then be assailed by a Sardinian brigade, which had come to take part in the operations of the First Corps. General Delesme, commanding the Engineers of the First Corps, had made arrangements for attacking the town similar to those which I have just explained with reference to the attacks of the Karabelna faubourg. On the 5th of September, at 8 o'clock in the morning, we threw on the Central Bastion two mines of projection, each charged with 100 kilogrammes of powder. The explosion took place near the middle of the bastion, and appeared to cause great disorder. At the same hour we exploded, in front of our approaches to the Malakhoff Fort, three mining chambers, charged in all with 1,500 kilogrammes of powder, in order to destroy the lower

galleries of the Russian miners, and to give security to our soldiers, who had to crowd within the trenches under which deserters announced that the soil was mined. At noon precisely our soldiers rushed from the advanced *place d'armes* in front of the Malakhoff. They crossed the ditches with surprising agility, and, jumping on the parapets, attacked the enemy to the cry of "Vive l'Empereur!" At the Malakhoff Fort, the interior slope having a great height, those who arrived first halted an instant to form. Then they mounted on the parapet and jumped into the work. The combat which had commenced with discharges of fire-arms, was carried on with the bayonet, with stones, and with butt-ends of muskets. The rammers became weapons in the hands of the Russian gunners, but everywhere the Russians were killed, taken prisoners, or made to fly; and in less than a quarter of an hour after the attack had taken place the French flag waved on the conquered redoubt. The Careenage Redan had also been carried after a very hot struggle. The centre column had advanced as far as the second *enceinte*. Everywhere we had taken possession of the works attacked. The General-in-Chief gave the concerted signal for the attack of the Great Redan, and soon after for the attack of the town. The English had 200 metres of ground to go over under a terrible fire of grape. This space was presently covered with dead, but these losses could not stop the march of the attacking column, which advanced to the capital of the work. It descended into the ditch, which was about five metres in depth, and, notwithstanding all the efforts of the Russians, it escalated the scarp and took from them the salient of the Redan; but after the first struggle, which cost the Russians dear, the English soldiers found before them a vast open space crossed in all directions by the balls of the enemy, who themselves were sheltered behind distant traverses. Those who came up were scarcely sufficient to replace those who were placed *hors de combat*. It was not until they had sustained, during nearly two hours, this unequal combat, that the English resolved to evacuate the Redan. The attack upon the Central Bastion presented the same result. In front of the Malakhoff the Russians made great efforts to reconquer the works. Repeated attacks were made, but in vain. The dead bodies of the enemy were piled up in front of the gorge, but the 1st division remained immovable, and in the evening we were masters of this citadel, without which the Russians could not continue their defence for more than a few days. Thus terminated this memorable siege, in which the means of defence and attack attained colossal dimensions. The Russians had 800 cannon in battery, the besieging army about 700. In finishing this report, I ought to tell you, Monsieur le Maréchal, that the greatest harmony has never ceased to prevail between the artillery and the engineers. Whenever one of these two services could come to the assistance of the other, he did it with eagerness, and this community of views and action has given us the means of overcoming many difficulties. I have also had to congratulate myself in every instance on my relations with General Harry Jones, commanding the engineers of the English army. Our object was the same, and we have never differed in opinion on the means to be employed for attaining it. Already at the siege of Bomarsund, I had the opportunity of appreciating the loyalty and the noble character of this general officer. I have been happy at finding myself again in relations with him at the siege of Sebastopol."

Some further particulars are contained in telegraphic despatches received before those above quoted. Marshal Péliſſier says, on the 10th:—

"I visited Sebastopol and the line of defences to-day. It is difficult to give an exact picture of the results of our victory, of which inspection alone can give an idea. The multiplicity of defensive works, and the materials and means that have been applied, surpass everything known in the history of war. The taking of the Malakhoff, which caused the enemy to fly before our eagles, already three times victorious, has placed in the hands of the allies immense establishments of matériel, of which it is impossible to calculate the advantage. Tomorrow the Allied troops will occupy Karabelnaia and

the city. An Anglo-French commission will be engaged to report on the matériel abandoned by the enemy. The joy of our soldiers is great. The cry of 'Vive l'Empereur!' celebrates the victory."

The *Moniteur* of the 26th contains a second despatch from Marshal Péliſſier, containing further details of the capture of Sebastopol. He thus describes the English attack on the Redan:

"The English had 200 mètres to cross under a terrible fire of grape. This space was soon strewed with dead; nevertheless, this did not stop the march of the storming column, which advanced toward the capital of the work. It descended into the ditch, which is nearly five mètres deep, and, despite all the efforts of the Russians, it scaled the escarp, and carried the salient of the Redan. There, after the first brunt of the engagement, which cost the Russians dear, the English soldiers found in front of them only a vast open space, crossed by the balls of the enemy, who kept himself close behind some distant traverses. Those who came up hardly replaced those who had been disabled. It was not till they had sustained for nearly two hours this unequal contest that the English decided on evacuating the Redan. They did so with so firm an aspect that the enemy did not dare follow."

He adds:—"The English army conducted itself with its habitual intrepidity. It prepared a second attack, which, doubtless, would have triumphed over the unexpected obstacles which had met their first; but the possession of the Malakhoff properly led to the countermanning of this second attack."

Marshal Péliſſier sums up the French losses as follows:

Our losses on this day were five generals killed, four wounded, and six contused, 24 superior officers killed, 20 wounded, and two missing; 116 subaltern officers killed, 224 wounded, eight missing; 1489 sous-officers and soldiers killed, 4259 wounded, and 1400 missing—total 7551."

An extraordinary *Gazette* published on the 26th, contains full lists of the killed and wounded in the attack on the Redan. Our loss has been: 29 officers, 36 sergeants, 6 drummers, 314 rank and file, killed; 124 officers, 142 sergeants, 12 drummers, 1608 rank and file, wounded; 1 officer, 12 sergeants, 163 rank and file, missing. Total—Killed, 385; wounded, 1886; missing, 176—2117.

Lord Panmure has addressed the following telegraphic despatch to General Simpson:

"War Department, Sept. 12.—The Queen has received with deep emotion the welcome intelligence of the fall of Sebastopol. Penetrated with profound gratitude to the Almighty, who has vouchsafed this triumph to the Allied Army, her Majesty has commanded me to express to yourself, and, through you, to the army, the pride with which she regards this fresh instance of their heroism. The Queen congratulates her troops on the triumphant issue of this protracted siege, and thanks them for the cheerfulness and fortitude with which they have encountered its toils, and the valour which led to its termination. The Queen deeply laments that this success is not without its alloy in the heavy losses which have been sustained; and while she rejoices in the victory, her Majesty deeply sympathises with the noble sufferers in their country's cause. You will be pleased to congratulate General Péliſſier, in her Majesty's name, upon the brilliant result of the assault on the Malakhoff, which proves the irresistible force as well as indomitable courage of our brave Allies.—PANMURE."

The Queen in Council has ordered that prayers and thanksgivings shall be offered on Sunday the 30th inst., in all the places of worship belonging to the Churches of England and Scotland, "for the signal and complete successes obtained by the troops of her Majesty, and especially for the capture of the town of Sebastopol."

The following intelligence respecting the *War in Asia* is published in the Vienna papers:—We have news from Constantinople that the Russians before Karsavieff had

divided his forces, and sent a corps on towards Erzeroum. No sooner did the garrison of Kars obtain knowledge of this, than they made a sortie and surprised the Russians in the night of the 16th and 17th of August. Great was the confusion in the camp of the Russians, who fled, abandoning their luggage and a number of prisoners. The corps that threatened Erzeroum has marched back again in all haste. Kerim Pasha commanded the Turks who sallied out of Kars. Erzeroum contained a garrison of 4,000 regulars and 25,000 Bashi-bazouks."—A despatch from Kars of the 17th ult., says: "Though the Russians still intercept communications with Erzeroum, and have burnt the villages round about, they have no means of attacking either Kars or Erzeroum."

Intelligence from the allied squadrons in the *Pacific*, contained in the San Francisco papers, has been confirmed by despatches from Admiral Bruce, the Commander of the British squadron. The accounts are to the following purport:—The British squadron, under Admiral Bruce, consisted of eight ships mounting 190 guns; the French squadron, under Admiral Fourcier, consisted of four ships mounting 164 guns. Their destination was the fortified town of Petropavlovski, the capital of Kamtschatka. When the Allies attacked this place in September last year, they failed to destroy it, and returned to the Pacific station, leaving behind them two Russian men-of-war, the Aurora and the Dwina. In order to prevent the escape of these ships, the Admiralty, early in the present year, sent the steamers Barracouta and Encounter to blockade Petropavlovski. In the mean time, the Russians had greatly strengthened the defences, and doubled the number of guns. When, however, the Allies appeared before the place in May, they held the American flag flying instead of the Russian; and on landing they found that the town was entirely deserted by the enemy, and tenanted only by two Americans and a Frenchman. They also learnt, that on the 17th April, the Aurora and Dwina, with a transport carrying the garrison, and three American whalers carrying stores, had evaded the blockading ships, and escaped in safety to the Amoor river. The Russian Admiral, too, whose frigate, the Diana, was destroyed in Japan, had also escaped the Barracouta and Encounter, and had run into the harbour. On landing, the Allies destroyed everything, but found no guns, the armament of the place having been either buried or carried to the Amoor. After destroying Petropavlovski, the greater part of the Allied fleets returned to their stations on the American coast, passing by Sitka and the Aleutian Islands to San Francisco; where some had arrived on the 26th July, and others were expected daily. Two British ships, however, the Pique and the Amphitrite, sailed for the Amoor river. Sitka was spared, as being exempted from all liability to hostilities on the part of the British by a convention concluded between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Russian American Company.

Intelligence has been received from the squadron in the *White Sea* to the end of July.

"A smart affair took place on the 17th in the Gulf of Kandalaska between the boats of H.M. Ariel, Commander Luce, and a strong body of Russian troops, the result of which was the complete destruction of the town of Kandalak, with the exception of the church. In this little affair we had three men badly wounded. It is added that the presence of the squadron in the White Sea has put an end to all trade except such as may be carried on by land or in little boats that pull close to the shore."

Since the attack on Sweaborg no operation of magnitude has taken place in the *Baltic*. On the 8th ult., Captain Otter, of H.M. ship Firefly, destroyed the Russian magazines and stores at Brandon, the sea-port of Wasa in the Gulf of Bothnia, and took or burnt several small vessels. The magazines were fifty or sixty in number, containing coals, tar, resin, salt, spars, boats, &c. This service was performed without any casualty whatever.

Mr. Easton, the surgeon of the Cossack, captured at Hango.

"*Wladimir*, August 5.—I left St. Petersburg on the afternoon of Saturday the 14th of July, I think, escorted by a gendarme officer and two of his men, and travelled along the celebrated but most uninteresting road from St. Petersburg to Moscow; reaching the latter place on Tuesday afternoon, and leaving it at eleven o'clock p.m. We reached Wladimir about noon next day, after a fatiguing journey of four days. Here I am planted in the midst of Russia. The Governor is very kind; and his lady speaks English most admirably, and uses it to promote my comfort and happiness by every means possible. In truth, I am overwhelmingly indebted to Lady Annenkoff for her unceasing benefits, taking from exile most of its sting. I have good quarters and kindness from all I meet: what can I desire more, except liberty? Wladimir is a very beautiful town, situate on a small river called the Kiasme, which waters the plain above which the town stands. It is choke-full of picturesque churches, very old, and very noisy when their bells are clinking, which is pretty frequently. I send you an account of what came under my knowledge at Hango. I see from the *St. Petersburg Journal* very erroneous accounts have been published.

"June 4 or 5—(I am not quite sure of the date)—the Cossack anchored off Hango, for the purpose of setting at liberty several Finnish merchant-captains taken prisoners in the Gulf of Finland. On this service a cutter with eleven men, under the command of Lieutenant Geneste, accompanied by Mr. Sullivan, was ordered to proceed on shore, hoisting a flag of truce (white flag). I, hearing there was a boat to be sent to the shore to land the prisoners, thought I might as well take advantage of the chance of a walk, however short. Three stewards were sent in the boat, to purchase, if allowed, milk, eggs, &c. Being a medical man, I of course paid no attention to any of the arrangements connected with the boat, so that I did not know there were any arms in her; nor did I think it necessary to pay any attention as to flags, except that I sometimes called out to let the flag of truce be well seen. The boat, bearing the white flag in her bows lashed to a boarding-pike, was pulled under the telegraph station; the Finnish captain, Lundstrom, I think, directing where to land. Inside the point of land on which the telegraph is placed, we found a small harbour with a wooden pier, which we went alongside of. Lieutenant Geneste then gave orders to the sailors not to leave the boat, but to put on the pier the luggage belonging to the prisoners. Geneste, Sullivan, myself, the three stewards, and the prisoners, landed on the pier; one of the stewards taking the white flag with him. We had only taken a few steps when from all sides fire was opened on us. I saw for the first time soldiers, and, at a hurried glance, I thought about a hundred of them had surrounded us. The first I saw fall was Lundstrom; next, one of the stewards. I immediately jumped into the water to get to the boat, but saw she had drifted a little from the landing-place, with several of the sailors seemingly dead in her. Seeing no other means of escape, I got under the pier, thinking, if not discovered, I might manage to get off to the ship at night. I found that one of the stewards, wounded, and one of the sailors, un wounded, also one of the Finnish captains, had likewise taken shelter under the pier. The affair seemed to be over in an instant, there being no resistance on our side—in fact no time for it. After a short time, all being quiet, the Finnish captain left the pier, and shortly after returned with men from the village; when of course we became prisoners. We were placed in waggons and taken to Ekenas; where, to my great delight, I found Geneste and Sullivan, with three of our men un wounded, and three others wounded. While under the pier, I of course did not know the fate of the others, but, from the firing, thought all except the two with me had fallen. We were very kindly treated when prisoners, and everything was done for the wounded that could possibly be done. ROBERT T. EASTON, Surgeon, R.N."

Sir Charles Napier has published the correspondence between Sir James Graham and himself during the

period that the admiral commanded the fleet in the Baltic. The letters range from the date of Sir C. Napier's appointment in February last year to that of his return to Kiel in November. The following are the passages of the correspondence most immediately connected with the breach between the Minister and the Admiral:—

On the 1st of May, Sir J. Graham advises Sir C. Napier, in the first instance, to feel his way, and to make good his hold in the Gulf of Finland. "When I say this, I by no means contemplate an attack either on Sweaborg or on Cronstadt. I have a great respect for stone walls, and have no fancy for running even screw line-of-battle ships against them. Because the public here may be impatient, you must not be rash; because they, at a distance from danger, are fool-hardy, you must not risk the loss of a fleet in an impossible enterprise." Sir James adds, that he believes "both Sweaborg and Cronstadt to be all but impregnable from the sea—Sweaborg more especially—and none but a very large army could co-operate by land efficiently, in the presence of such a force as Russia could readily concentrate for the immediate defence of the approaches to her capital." He advises the Admiral, then, if he has none but naval means at his command, to "pause long, and consider well, before he attempts any attack on the Russian squadrons in their strongholds, being afraid that they were much too cautious to come out and meet him. Had you been weaker," Sir James observes, "they might have done so. Now they will wait, and watch an opportunity, in the hope that you will seriously cripple your force, by knocking your head against their forts, when they may take you at a serious disadvantage, and inflict a fatal blow. These considerations must not be overlooked by you; I recall them to your mind, lest, in the eager desire to achieve a great exploit, and to satisfy the wild wishes of an impatient multitude, you should yield to some rash impulse, and fail in the discharge of one of the noblest of duties, which is, the moral courage to do what you know to be right, at the risk of being accused of having done wrong. You will reflect on it, and I am certain that your judgment will not err.—I am, my dear Admiral, yours sincerely, J. G. GRAHAM."

In several subsequent letters Sir James Graham reiterates similar sentiments, advising prudence and caution.

On the 11th of July, after speaking of Bomarsund as a fortress which it is feasible to attack, Sir James repeats his advice to be cautious. "Sweaborg, if it were possible, would be a noble prize, but on no account be led into any desperate attempt, and, above all things, avoid the least risk of the Russian fleet slipping out of the Gulf of Finland when your back is turned; and be slow to land your marines, without whom your line of battle is disabled. The Russians, though shy, are crafty; and, if they can catch you at a disadvantage, they will be down upon you. With 50,000 troops and 200 gun-boats you might still do something great and decisive before the end of September."

On the 22nd of August Sir James congratulates the Admiral on the successful attack of Bomarsund; and, on the 25th, he says: "I am more than satisfied with your proceedings. I am delighted with the prudence and sound judgment which you have evinced. It would have been a miserable want of firmness had you yielded to clamour, and risked your ships, and sacrificed many valuable lives, in an attempt to destroy, by naval means, works which were certain to fall to an attack by land. The work has been well done, and I gladly give you the utmost credit for it."

On the 17th of October, Sir James Graham, in answer to a letter from the Admiral, writes: "You refer to my letters at the end of August, as contemplating then the early termination of active operations in the Baltic for this year. I was not prepared, even at that time, for the immediate departure of the French army after the capture of Bomarsund, and I pointed out to you Abo, Sweaborg, and Revel, as points which, with military aid, were open to attack. Much less was I prepared for the withdrawal of the French squadron from the combined naval operations almost instantaneously with the departure of the army, so soon as Bomarsund had been

destroyed." And he refers to a report made by General Jones, to the effect that Sweaborg might be successfully attacked, in which opinion Gen. Baraguay d'Hilliers had concurred. Sir James Graham closes this letter by remarking, that an effort should have been made by the combined forces of the allies, but that as the French squadron was on its way home, nothing now remained but gradually to withdraw the line of battle-ships, and to await the moment when ice should enclose the Russian fleet within the Gulf of Finland for the winter.

Sir Charles's reply is dated from Kiel, on the 27th of October. He tells Sir James Graham that on the 29th of August he announced to him the intention of the French General to withdraw the troops. "I agreed (he says) with the French General and Admiral, that Sweaborg could not be attacked at this season of the year; and I have no hesitation in saying, had we moved the troops and ships up to Miolo Roads, and landed 5000 men, we should not have brought off one man, and how many ships we should have lost I cannot say." And he observes that after the capture and destruction of Bomarsund till he left Nargen, there had not been three days fit for operations that required seven or eight. Sir C. Napier denies that the decision not to attack Sweaborg was taken on the spot, and declares that General Jones's report made no change whatever in their opinions. Sir Charles further adds, that the opinions of the French General and General Jones were entirely opposed to each other, and not in accordance, as Sir J. Graham had stated. Sir Charles goes on to observe: "The truth is, the troops came too late—too many for Bonnarsund, too few for Sweaborg. The cholera got amongst them, General Jones made a proposal which the Generals declined acting on. The people in England were dissatisfied, and, as some one must be blamed, the Government want to throw it on me, but I will not accept it." Referring again to the lateness of the season and the continuation of bad weather, the Admiral says: "Had people considered one moment, they would have seen the impracticability of the attempt; but they thought Sebastopol was taken, and I must take Sweaborg, Revel, and Cronstadt. After the French Generals had reconnoitred Sweaborg, I examined it again, and sent home my opinion as to how it ought to be attacked—by ships, batteries, gun-boats, mortar-boats, &c., at great length; and the Admiralty, as if anxious to get up a case against me, take it into their heads that I meant to attack it with the fleet alone, and were going to send back the French squadron and Admiral Plunridge's ships; and though I have remonstrated, they persist in still thinking so, and you, Sir James, seem to have fallen into the same error. You say, 'then came your own second reconnaissance, and a plan of naval attack, which you considered practicable.' Had I seen the smallest chance of success, I should have attacked without the French, but I did not; and surely my opinion is worth more than a general of engineers; but the Admiralty seem to think different. The general talked of destroying Sweaborg in two hours. It is much more likely the ships would have been set fire to by red-hot shot and shells, and some of them on shore by that time. Be assured it is a most difficult place to attack, and whoever does it will have a hard nut to crack. No admiral has, as yet, ventured to attack such a fortress, defended as it is by art and nature. The sunken rocks alone, combined with the smoke from the guns and steamers, is no bad defence." After replying to some observations of Sir J. Graham, respecting the risks and dangers of warfare, Sir C. Napier reminds the First Lord of his previous commendations on the score of the Admiral's prudence: "All the summer, Sir James, you were cautioning me, and so were the Government, not to risk my ships against stone walls, for which you had a great respect, and praising me for the manner I had conducted the fleet; now winter is come, you are dissatisfied at my not doing impossibilities; and as the people are not satisfied, the Government are preparing to abandon me, because I will not follow the advice of a general, contrary to that of my own admirals, and diametrically opposite to the opinion of the French general of engineers, and attack a fortress at a season of the year when it is more than probable I should have lost half my fleet." Sir Charles winds up

as follows: "I am conscious of having done my duty, and if you are dissatisfied, you can bring me to a court-martial, or remove me, as I before mentioned to the Admiralty. I am very far from well, and I assure you this correspondence has not improved my health, and I am suffering much from cold."

To this letter Sir James Graham rejoined: "I am very unwilling to be involved in a written controversy with you, but you have brought it on yourself, by your report of the 25th of September, after your second reconnaissance of Sweaborg. That report appeared to me to be entirely at variance with the opinions previously expressed by you, and I certainly understood you then to say, that if you had mortars, rockets, and Lancaster guns, you considered Sweaborg assailable by sea. In May you declared it to be unassailable by sea or land, and the Admiralty did not send to you the appliances which, in Sept., you declared to be wanting, because they believed, from your account, they would be useless against a place which in the first instance you pronounced to be impregnable. I could not bring myself to believe that the want of Lancaster guns, or even of mortars, rendered a sea attack, on your plan of the 25th Sept., impossible, if you had 25 sail of the line assembled before the place, with all their means of vertical fire. I am sincerely sorry to hear that you are unwell. I hope that Kiel harbour and milder air will restore you to health."

In the last of the series, written from Kiel, Nov. 6, Sir C. Napier says: "There is not a word in either my public or private letters that justifies the construction that you and the Admiralty have thought proper to put on them. My letter in answer to their lordships' last despatch is plain enough; but if their lordships think proper to deliberate on one part of my letter, and ignore another part, I can only protest against it; and I am quite prepared to defend myself against any unjust attacks that are made against me. Enough has not been done to satisfy an impatient public, as you called them—some one must be blamed, and I am the chosen one; but I will not allow myself to be crushed, because I could not do impossibilities. All this stir has been caused by the reports of two engineers (one French and the other English), diametrically opposed to each other; in addition to which was the report of the capture of Sebastopol, not yet taken, though the fleet there is assisted by an army of 70,000 men, in a fine climate; and I have been expected to take places much stronger with a fleet alone; and the same people who so often warned me against unnecessarily risking my fleet, are now dissatisfied because I did not expose them to certain destruction. I have gone through the world with honour and credit to myself; and, just as I am about to leave it, unworthy attempts are being made to ruin my reputation; but they will fail, and recoil on themselves."

Advices from *Paris* state that another attempt has been made on the life of the Emperor. On Saturday evening, the 8th inst., his Majesty visited the Italian Theatre. The first carriage of the *cortège*, containing Count Bacciochi, attracted little or no attention. The second carriage, which followed at an interval of some minutes, contained the Ladies of Honour. An old soldier of the Empire, who happened to be standing near, and whom the sight of the Imperial liveries excites to enthusiasm, shouted out "Vive l'Empereur!" with much ado. Hearing this, a young man stepped forward, a small pistol in each hand, levelled at the carriage; but before he could fire them, the police had rushed up and struck them down, causing the balls to pass under the carriage. The assassin was instantly arrested. A few minutes afterwards, the Emperor drove up, as calm as usual; and his appearance in the theatre was a signal for a burst of cheers. The assassin was taken to the Prefecture of Police and examined, when it was found that his name was Bellemare, and that he was unquestionably a maniac. He will therefore not be brought to trial, but kept in confinement as insane.

An Imperial decree has appeared in the *Moniteur*, raising the Commander-in-chief of the French army in the Crimea to the dignity of a Marshal of France.

General Canrobert has declined the offer of a Marshal's

baton, on the plea that his acceptance would diminish the glory of Marshal Pélissier.

A most lamentable accident took place on Sunday night, the 9th inst., on the Versailles Railroad. The passenger train returning from Versailles came in collision with a luggage train quite close to the Paris station, which actually cut it in two. Several carriages were broken to atoms, and several lives have been lost; nine killed on the spot, and seventeen badly hurt, are admitted by the directors. Two young girls, sisters, had their legs cut clean off, and among others the body of a man was found with both legs cut off, and a child stifled by the death embrace in his arms. The spot where the accident occurred was covered with blood. A child only eighteen days old was killed in the arms of its mother, who had a leg fractured. The father was on the roof, and at the moment of the collision leaped on the ground, and only received some contusions.

Intelligence from *Florence* gives terrible accounts of the ravages of the cholera. No less than 11,000 persons have, it is stated, been carried off in the month of August. The population of the city, which is on an average 100,000, is now reduced to 60,000 by death and flight. It is affirmed that ten persons were lately buried alive. The horrible fact was lately brought to light in this way:—An Italian warehouse-keeper in Palazzuolo (a faubourg of Florence) was buried for dead in the Trespiano Cemetery, with many other supposed corpses in a common grave. He awoke to sense of consciousness, and so thin was the covering of sandy earth above him, that he made his way out to the surface. Still weak, he lived for three days on roots in the forest which surrounds the graveyard. At length he recovered strength sufficient to reach his house, where he startled his family, who were in mourning for him. He assured them that he distinctly felt the bodies of numerous people interred with him moving about. The grave was consequently opened, and it was found that many had stirred, and several of them had bitten their fingers in agony, and otherwise injured themselves. They were all dead when the investigation was made. The utmost excitement prevailed on the subject among the population.

The accounts from *Naples* represent the cruelties of the government as being so intolerable as to threaten a popular explosion. The *Paris Presse* describes the judicial murder of one of the political prisoners, vouching for the truth of the statement. "Everybody now knows of the death of the unfortunate Lorenzo, who was bastinadoed for having replied with dignity to the insults of the sbirro Campagna. It should be known that Lorenzo's bourreaux were ordered to pause four minutes between every blow of the stick, and the number of blows awarded was one hundred! The surgeon in attendance remonstrated after the fiftieth stroke, and declared that if the punishment was carried further death must inevitably ensue. But neither the generous intervention of the surgeon nor the piercing shrieks of the victim could stay the executioners. The hundred blows were scrupulously administered, the four minutes' interval being observed throughout; and, after a torture which lasted seven hours, the unfortunate man was transported to the prison hospital, where he very speedily expired." It is said that the young king has at length, in consequence of the agitation at home and remonstrances from abroad, found himself compelled to dismiss Mazza, the Director of Police, the chief agent of his atrocities.

The reign of the young king of *Portugal*, Don Pedro the Fifth, was formally inaugurated on the 16th, at Lisbon. Appearing before the Cortes, the king declared his adhesion to the policy of the Cabinet, and gave it his confidence. His accession was welcomed by the people with joyful demonstrations; and the British men-of-war, Neptune, Sanspareil, and Rosamond, arrived just in time to fire the salute that courtesy required. The electric telegraph was used for the first time to notify the accession to Europe.

The Spanish Cortes are to meet on the 1st of October.

The *Clamor Publico*, of the 15th inst., confirms the statement already made that the proposed alliance with the Western Powers will be the first question submitted to the Cortes by the government on their re-assembling. It adds that in the event of intervention being resolved on, the expedition to be sent against the Russians will be under General Zavala or General Prim.

The *New York* papers state that the Hon. Abbott Lawrence died at Boston on the 18th ult., aged sixty-three years. The deceased gentleman was, during nearly the whole of President Filmore's term of office, American Minister at the court of St. James's. The citizens of Boston had held a meeting in order to determine on a fitting testimonial of their appreciation of his character and public services.

A bill of a very stringent character, in relation to Abolitionists, has been brought before the Kansas Legislature. It provides that every person who shall be convicted of causing a rebellion of slaves, free negroes, or mulattoes, or of doing any act in furtherance thereof, shall suffer death.

The Women's Rights Convention had met at Saratoga. The strong-minded ladies assembled in full force. The proceedings presented nothing new.

At Baltimore a desperate *rencontre* had taken place between several rival fire companies of that city. During the fight not fewer than fifty pistol shots were heard, but no loss of life is reported.

Accounts from New Orleans represent that the yellow fever was raging with increasing virulence, 394 persons having fallen victims to the scourge during the week. Yellow fever was also raging at Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia. In these towns nearly all business was suspended and great destitution prevailed. The merchants of New York had subscribed sums of money in aid of the sufferers.

The State Rights and Southern Rights Anti-Know-nothing citizens of Charleston had held a meeting and issued a manifesto in the form of resolutions. Amongst the resolutions, it was declared that South Carolina would part from the Union rather than give up the safety, "the domestic tranquillity, rights, and honour of the Slaveholding States," or sanction any prohibition upon the slavery of any future State,—specifically men-

tioning Utah and New Mexico. Strong sympathy was expressed for "the friends of the Slavery cause in Kansas."

Accounts from *Mexico* mention the abdication and flight of Santa Anna. He left the city of Mexico on the 9th ult., signed his abdication at Perote, and proceeded to Vera Cruz, where he embarked on the 17th ult. for Havannah. He was escorted in his flight by 2500 troops, but shortly after leaving the capital one-third of them revolted, killed several of the officers, and then joined the revolutionists; on arriving at Vera Cruz another revolt broke out, but a single regiment continued faithful to their fallen chief, and the mutineers were vanquished and fled in confusion. With reference to the reconstruction of the government, it appears, however, that the plan of Alvarez has been adopted, and that General Carro is Provisional President, and General La Vege Commander-in-Chief of the army, instead of Santa Anna, who left the capital, on the pretence of quelling the insurrection in Vera Cruz. The office of the *Universal* and forty other buildings had been demolished by the populace during the excitement consequent upon Santa Anna's departure. The military interfered, killing forty persons and wounding a large number. The statue of Santa Anna had been torn down and trampled upon by the people. Delegates met in the city of Mexico on the 10th, who elected General Carro president for six months, and also ordained the liberty of the press. Advices from Cuba to the 23rd state that her Majesty's ship Daring was at Vera Cruz, for the purpose of embarking Santa Anna on his arrival, and that a Spanish steamer had been likewise placed at his service.

From *China* we learn that the insurgents were losing ground in the north. The bloodshed at Canton during the last few weeks had been most appalling. About 10,000 of the inhabitants of Shau-king a short time since gave themselves up to the mercy of the Imperial authorities (that city having been evacuated by the rebels). They were conveyed to Canton, and treated with the greatest brutality for some weeks, when they were ordered for execution, and have been got rid of at the rate of 700 or 800 a day, several of whom were skinned alive.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

A FEW lines will suffice to describe the publications of the past month in general literature; the major part having been serials and new editions, which it does not fall within our purpose to include. Apart from these, only the following claim mention. Dr. Lindley Kemp has published two volumes entitled *The Phasis of Matter*, and containing an outline of the discoveries and applications of modern chemistry. General Klappa has published his views regarding the origin and management of *The War in the East*, from the year 1853 up to July 1855. In the corrected edition of Lord Brougham's works, the first volume of the *Sketches of Statesmen* has been given, with a very curious selection from the correspondence of George the Third with Lord North. Mr. Bell has added another volume of Chaucer to his *Annotated English Poets*. Mr. Edward Baines has contributed to the Traveller's Library *A Visit to the Vaudois of Piedmont*. Mr. Murray has issued, very à propos for those who had occasion to be present at the celebration of Don Pedro the Fifth's majority, *A Handbook for Portugal*. Doctor Walter Lewis has published a timely Report of the laws and ordinances in force in France for the regulation of noxious trades and occupations. Doctor Churchill Babington has reproduced a fac-simile of a very curious little tract of the early reformers in Italy, once one of the commonest, and since one of the very rarest, books in the world, *The Benefit of Christ's Death*. It is very completely edited, and besides the fac-simile of the old print of the original, and a learned historical introduction, contains a French translation printed in 1556, and also an English version

made in 1518 by Edward Courtenay, Earl of Devonshire, and now recovered from a manuscript in the University library at Cambridge. Mr. P. G. Hamerton has put forth a volume of poems, *The Tales of Loch Awe*, abundantly illustrated with clever wood-cuts of his own design. Mr. B. H. Smart has written an Essay on Locke's Philosophy, which he entitles *Thought and Language*. Mr. Samuel Lewis has described, in a little volume alphabetically arranged, *The Rivers of England and Wales*, particularising their respective courses, their most striking scenery, and the chief places of interest on their banks. An historical poem called *Olga*, illustrating Russia in the tenth century, has been published. A volume of biblical narrative and criticism, from the Rev. E. D. Rendell, has been devoted to the *Post Diluvian History from the Flood to the Call of Abraham*. Capt. Hardy has published in two volumes his *Sporting Adventures in the New World*. Mr. T. Baker has published a treatise on the *Law Relating to Burials*. Dr. Collier has translated *Aristotle on the Vital Principle*, from the original text, and has appended notes to it. A second series of *Sermons* by Mr. Robertson, of Brighton, has been edited by his brother. And, to close our list, the following novels and tales have appeared:—*Lizzie Leigh* and other stories, by the author of "Mary Barton;" *My First Season*, by the author of "Charles Auchester;" *Blenheim, or What came of Troubling the Waters*, by Mr. E. Elliott; and *Percy Blake*, or the *Young Rifleman*, by Capt. Rafter;—the last only being in three volumes, the rest occupying each a single volume.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 15th inst., £13,698,455.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stnd., per oz. £3 17 9	Silver bars, stan. per oz. 5 1½
Do., dust, " 3 16 0	Mexican dollars, " 4 11½

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0·18 prem.	New York	0·42 disct.
Hamburgh	0·59 prem.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 4½ per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	91½	90½	89½-89
Three per Cent. Reduced	92½	91½	88½
New Three per Cents.	92½	91½	89
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	4½	4	4
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	218	216	216-218
Exchequer Bills, 2½d.	17 pm.	2 dis.	2 dis. par
India Bonds Bills	30 pm.	10	5s. to 10s.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1
100	Brighton & S. Coast	98½	95	96½	419,965
11·6·3	Blackwall	7	6½	6½	44,262
100	Caledonian	63½	60½	50 ex. d.	357,778
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	50	54	51 ex. d.	1,008,136
20	Eastern Counties	11	10	9½	686,359
100	Gt. Sn. & Wn. (Irel.)	102	100	100	195,290
100	Great Northern	88	86½	85½	617,370
100	Great Western	57½	54½	54½	789,299
100	Laneash. & Yorksh.	81½	75½	75½	623,234
100	London & N. Westn.	94½	91½	91½	1,723,283
100	London & S. Westn.	85	82	81½	450,683
100	Midland	69½	64	64	828,233
100	South-East. & Dover	60	57	56½	542,296

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.	RAILWAYS.
Belgian 4½ per cent., 95½	East Belgian Junct., 2 dis.
Brazilian 5 per cent., 102½	Great W. of Canada, 24½
Chilian 6 per cent., 103½	Great Luxembourg, 3½
Danish 5 per cent., 100-1	Northern of France, 3½
Dutch 2½ per cent., 64-66	Norwegian Trunk Pref., 9
Dutche 4 p. cent. cert., 94-97	Paris and Orleans, 46
Mexican 3 per cent., 21½	Paris and Lyons, 4½
Peruvian 3 per cent., 74-76	Paris and Rouen, 51
Portuguese 4 per cent., 4-5	Rouen and Havre, 27½
Russian 5 per cent., 97-99	West Flanders, 23½
Spanish 3 per cent., 19½	West of France, 11
Sardinian 5 per cent., 84-86	

MINES.

Linares	ex. d. 7½	Quartz Rock	½
Nouveau Monde	½	St. John Del Rey	28

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.	BANKS.
Australian	1
Colonial Gold	2
Great Nugget	½
Port Philip	½
South Australian	½

RAILWAYS.

Bombay and Baroda	1pm.	Australasian Pacific	7
East Indian	23	Australian Royal Mail	73
Do., Extension	2	Eastern Steam Navig.	—
Indian Peninsula	5½	General Screw St. Ship	18
Madras	10½	Pen. & Orient. St. Nav.	67

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural	30	North Brit. Australian	½
Van Diemen's Land	14	Peel River Land	2½
South Australian Land	26½	Scottish Austr. Invest.	1½

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Pearl.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Aug. 25	78 7	34 5	27 6	43 6	46 4	40 0
Sept. 1	72 7	34 9	29 3	42 7	46 9	38 8
—	74 10	35 0	28 2	42 11	47 10	39 4
—	76 9	35 3	28 6	45 3	48 0	43 5

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	68 to 70	70	70
Malting Barley	25	—	27
Oats, best, "	27	—	34
Wheat, White, "	63	—	80

Flour—
Town made, per sars. 70 — 72CATTLE—
s. d. s. d.

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 126½

Barica, 126½; Spelter, 23½,

PROVISIONS.

BACON, per cwt.—Irish, 7½, to 73½; American, 58s. to 62s.

BEEF—Mid. to prime, per s. lb., 38s. 6d. to 44s. 4d.; Irish India, per tr., 16s.; Hambo', 17os.; American, 14os. to 15os.

BUTTER—Dorset, per cwt., 108s. to 112s.; Irish, 90s. to 104s.; Dutch, 98s. to 100s.

CHEESE—Cheshire, per cwt., 72s. to 8½; Wiltshire, 62s. to 78s.; Dutch, 58s. to 60s.

HAMS—York, 8½, to 78s.; Westphalia, 74s. to 78s.

MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per s. lb., 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.

POTATOES, per ton, Scotch rods, 75s. to 80s.; Regts., 70s. to 75s.

PORK, per s. lb., 4s. 6d. to 5s.

VEAL, 4s. 4½, to 4s. 8d.

LAMB, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
To July 31	42,908	12,450	59,115	1,483	116,076
August	2,759	2,331	9,699	288	15,077
Total to Aug. 31	45,757	14,811	68,814	1,771	131,153

CURRENT RATES OF PASSENGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£30 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £21	5½, to 5½
Sydney	40 — 60	18 — 32	15 — 20	35 — 40
Adelaide	30 — 65	20 — 35	18 — 21	35 — 40
Hobart Tn.	40 — 65	25 — 35	20 — 22	35 — 40

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH SEPTEMBER TO THE 27TH OCTOBER.

{ PRICE 2d.
{ STAMPED 2d.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

AT A Common Hall, on the 29th ult., *Alderman David Salomons* was elected Lord Mayor by the unanimous vote of the Livery. He is the first Jewish Lord Mayor of London. In returning thanks, he observed: "I cannot forget that it is just twenty years since, for the first time, I was elected by a meeting similar to this to the important office of sheriff of London and Middlesex. Mighty changes have occurred since then, not only in this country, but in civilised Europe; but they all speak more or less of progress rather than retrogression. I trust we shall still find that a desire for the maintenance of all old institutions is consistent with popular rights, and, above all, with the rights of conscience. I therefore, without wishing to occupy more of your time, again thank so many of my friends, and the livery in general, for coming here to-day to support my nomination and election to the important office which I now fill. Rest assured that I will do my utmost in every respect to show that I am worthy of the confidence of my fellow-citizens." His address was received with loud and general cheering.

During the recess, the *Political Opinions of Ministers and Members of Parliament* continue to be delivered at public meetings throughout the country.

On the 25th ult., Mr. Baxter, the successor of Mr. Hume in the representation of Montrose, attended a meeting there, to give his constituents an account of his stewardship during the past session. His principal topic, of course, was the War, on which he made some pertinent remarks. He confessed that the delays and dangers of the Crimean campaign had only served to strengthen his conviction how absolutely necessary it was that France and England, now happily united in the vanguard of civilisation and for the wellbeing of mankind, should step forward to resist a power, great though semi-barbaric, founded on the servitude of millions, whose outposts, pushed forward so as to endanger the safety of neighbouring states, have proved stronger than we expected—who believes herself the champion of despotism—whose voice, hitherto most potent, has been heard on the side of tyranny and misrule in all parts of the world. The conqueror of Hungary (he said), when Austria failed, she overawed the malcontents of Germany; she exerted an all-powerful influence in preventing constitutional government in Denmark; she coquets with the Slave States of America; and her spies ferment treason and discord in every country where the people are free. Such is the power which, since the peace of 1815, owing to the negligence and the diplomatic inferiority of her superiors, has been gradually acquiring a position in the European brotherhood dangerous to civilisation and the liberties of mankind.

Once embarked in the contest, it would never have done for us to have patched up a peace when no decisive result had been obtained. No man feels more deeply than I do the miseries which this desperate fight before Sebastopol has caused; but, had the two hundred thousand French, English, and Sardinians retired from the Crimea without having effected the reduction of that proud fortress, which ambition and the lust of dominion raised, think you would the objects of the present war have been attained? Would Turkey have been safer than before the Muscovites crossed the Pruth? Would the Asiatic tribes have lost their faith in Russian invincibility? Would not the news of our failure have been

carried on the wings of the wind over the mountains of Armenia to the huts of the Tartars, across the plains of Persia to the frontiers of our gigantic empire in Hindostan? But, interposes Mr. Gladstone, all that is very true, but should a civilised nation fight for prestige?—I answer, why not? Would it not be a sad and gloomy day for mankind when England, the champion of civilisation and freedom, the home of the slave and the refuge of the destitute, loses that high place among the nations, that reputation for being all-powerful, that prestige if you will, which has done so much, and I hope will do much more, for the cause of humanity and the interests of our race? But again, object the peace men, will you carry on war merely to gain victory?—Not, as they deceitfully wish it to be supposed, not as the end but as the means to the end. Until Russia sees us victorious, until bitter experience teaches her that all her millions and her territories avail nothing against the enlightenment of the West, in my humble opinion she will never consent to give up her designs of conquest, and will never agree to a peace which will not be disturbed by her intrigues before the close of this century."

Mr. Horsman visited Belfast on the 26th ult., to attend a meeting of the Harbour Commissioners. In his speech after the banquet he dwelt upon the wonderful *Improvement in the Condition of Ireland*. "At the famine crisis of 1847 and 1848, I took a deep interest in the Irish question, and sustained an obscure and humble part in the discussion. I visited Ireland at that period, and the first place I landed at was Belfast. But at that time of misery and suffering I saw no symptoms here of the distress I had heard of so often in the house of commons. This, surely, said I, is not Ireland—these are not Irishmen: here I find comfort, wealth, prosperity, and intelligence. I went farther into districts, in which it was not possible to estimate the extent of the misery I witnessed. Famine and hunger stared me in the face on all sides; human beings dying of positive starvation, wherever I went, from one end of Ireland to the other; misery, poverty, want, destitution,—a prospect impossible to contemplate without a feeling of absolute horror. Eight years have passed away, and, what at that time could not have been foreseen, my next visit to Ireland is in an official capacity, and I am charged with a share in its administration; and if the former was a time of difficulty, there is a contrast now from one end of the country to the other; and I believe that during the last five or six years there is not a country on the face of the earth has made such a rapid and sudden advancement in every physical, material, moral, intellectual, and religious aspect." Referring to the question of steam communication between Ireland and Great Britain, Mr. Horsman observed that any government which understands the interest of the two countries, before many years are over must feel the necessity of establishing a short passage between the North of Ireland and the West of Scotland. The advantage, he said, of having the speediest communication between shore and shore is not to be calculated by any sum of money.

Mr. Vernon Smith appeared on the 27th ult. at the dinner of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Association, given at Kettering. His topic was the War, which he vindicated, and which he said must be continued. The soldiers, he said, and the British people had done

their duty and made great sacrifices, but he could not say the same of the British parliament. "Occasionally in that body men arose who were indisposed to the prosecution of the war; some were for peace at any price, and some were for war at half-price. But war could not be had at half-price, for if the war were starved it was impossible for success to follow. Others, again, high in power, were for war while it was prosperous, but shrank from pursuing it when it was disastrous, and did not hesitate to call upon those whom they had plunged into war to extricate them by what must ever be considered a most disastrous peace. Whilst such was the state of things at home, our soldiers abroad never flinched, never wavered, and were now triumphant. Many a man at home had been saying at one time that we couldn't, and at another that we shouldn't or wouldn't, take Sebastopol; but here we are with Sebastopol in our hands. It would be remembered, however, that though Sebastopol had fallen, the time had not yet arrived when we could safely turn our swords into ploughshares. The country must still be prepared to give its money, and also the real sinews of war, in fresh supplies of gallant men, to carry on the fight. There must now be no hesitation, no wavering; but we must gird up our loins for the fight, and put our trust in the god of battles."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer presided, on the 2nd inst., over the annual meeting of the Radnorshire Agricultural Society. In proposing the toast, "The Allied Fleets and Armies," he reviewed the *Events of the War during the Past Year*. "It is now just about a year since the expedition upon which the eyes of all England and all Europe are riveted—the expedition to Sebastopol—sailed. That expedition was perhaps framed with rather sanguine views of the possibility of success, considering the numbers by which it was undertaken. Nevertheless, it would have been possible for it to have succeeded very shortly after the landing of the allied armies. Such success was within the range, I will not say of possibility, but of probability. The sanguine hopes of those who contrived and ordered the expedition were not, however, fulfilled. We saw the painful spectacle of our gallant army during last winter exposed to such trials, to such hardships, and to such privations, as scarcely any civilised army was ever before exposed to. We were told that those hardships and privations were in a great measure owing to the neglect or the want of skill in those who guided and those who governed and provided for the wants of that expedition. I am not now going to enter into that much-debated, much-discussed, and much-controverted question. I will only shortly express to you my opinion—an opinion not founded on superficial grounds—that a large portion of the sufferings of our army was owing rather to the inherent difficulties of the expedition itself, rather to the manner in which it was undertaken, rather to the failure of immediate success, than to any want of ability or of skill in the persons who immediately superintended it. I don't mean to exculpate all the persons who were concerned in the government of that expedition: it would have been wonderful, after so many years of peace, if they suddenly found themselves fitted for the greatest of military enterprises. I don't mean to say that they attained that state of administrative perfection which much longer experience would scarcely have enabled them to reach. I will only say, I feel that those persons who have bestowed so much harsh criticism on the conductors of that expedition did not make sufficient allowances for the difficulties which were inherent in the enterprise itself. After a time, the treaty into which this country and France had entered with Austria rendered it incumbent upon us to commence negotiations at Vienna, with a view to see whether, during the pendency of the war, while the siege was still carried on before the walls of Sebastopol, some means could not be found which should put an end to hostilities. The course which was taken by this country in the negotiations at Vienna was pursued with steadiness and consistency throughout. No change took place in the terms which were offered by this country and France to Russia. Those terms were refused, and others were offered on the part of Russia. The result of those conferences was, that her Majesty's government, look-

ing at the circumstances of the contending powers—to the position of the armies at Sebastopol, and to the duty which they owed to their country—thought no good would arise from their continuance; and they were therefore broken off. Since that time, the war with Russia has been prosecuted with all the vigour which this country, with its great resources, could command; it has been prosecuted with all those more extensive military resources which the great population and the great military organisation of France puts at the disposal of her government; and the result we all know. The great fortress—the object of a year's contention between the great powers of Europe—has fallen: and the fleet, the arsenals, and the great military preparations of Russia, are in the hands of the allies. We may now ask, whether the terms which we, in combination with France, offered to Russia, were not fair and reasonable terms; and whether it would not have been for the interest of that haughty and aggressive power rather to have accepted those terms than to have waited the event which has now been developed. I have seen with great regret, during the last week, the comments which have been made by various critics of our own country on the share which our gallant army has borne in the attack upon Sebastopol. We do not grudge the laurels which France has deservedly earned in the assault of that place. There has been no rivalry, no unseemly competition between the two armies; it has been co-operation, and not jealousy or rivalry. The most generous, the most noble feelings, have been exhibited by the armies to each other—not only by the men but by the generals and officers. But while we willingly recognise the glory and honour of France in the achievements which placed the tower of Malakhoff, the key to the fortress, in the hands of the French attacking party, we must not allow unfair disparagement to be thrown upon our own army. The remarks to which I have alluded have not come from the French critics. On the contrary, I read with satisfaction in a newspaper the remarks of a French military critic, in which he said that the English troops had in the attack on the Great Redan done all that troops could by possibility accomplish. Can anybody doubt that our army has from the beginning shown the greatest gallantry, the greatest hardihood and enterprise on all occasions, whether offensive or defensive? We must wait for the more detailed official accounts, hereafter to be sent by the generals, before we are in a position to pass any judgment of censure on our own gallant troops. We must remember that the attack which they made effected a powerful diversion of the enemy, and to a certain extent assisted the French in maintaining that portion of the works which they had gained, and that at the close of the day the Redan was in the possession of the allies. Nothing can more dishearten a gallant army at a distance from our shores than captious and censorious criticisms, when they feel they have shed their best blood in the defence of their country. I trust that the best feelings of the country will be enlisted in their behalf, and that everything that we can do in the way of admiration and sympathy will be willingly bestowed upon them."

Lord Palmerston, on the 5th, received at Romsey an address of congratulation on the successes in the Crimea. In his reply, he spoke vigorously on the *Prosecution of the War*.—"The fall of Sebastopol," he said, "must inspire joy and exultation in the breast of every generous freeman on the surface of the globe." He dilated on the magnitude of the contest,—"We have been fighting the whole military force of the Russian empire; and we have possessed ourselves of the prize for which we have been fighting,—blood-stained ruins, truly, but containing vast supplies of warlike material. Why was that material collected? because the Russians felt that this Sebastopol was the stronghold of their power in the East; that from that centre was to radiate that intense and extensive power which was to lead them to the conquest of Constantinople, and to enable them from that centre of empire to sway in a great degree the destinies of Europe." He contrasted the evils arising from submission to grasping ambition and triumphant violence with the calamities of war; and drew a picture of England and France, "the two greatest nations in the world," forgetting their former rivalry, and uniting to

wage war, not wantonly, but for sound political considerations. "It would ill become any man in the situation which I have the honour to hold to talk of the future and to advert to prospective measures; but this I think I am well warranted in saying, that, viewing the manly and unflinching spirit that animates the people of this country—viewing the generous support that parliament has given to the government in every measure connected with the prosecution of the war—viewing the perfect good faith and undeviating constancy of purpose which animate our great ally the Emperor of the French—viewing the sympathy which our cause excites among every free people and in every free country in the world, and even in places where mistaken views of their interest, as I think, lead the governments to a different course—viewing the justice of our cause, which entitles us to look for the protection of Providence on our exertions,—I say, in viewing all these things, I am confident that we may look for such a result of the contest in which we are engaged as may place the future liberties of Europe and the main and permanent interests of the countries which are now allied upon a sure, a stable, and a lasting foundation."

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, on the 4th, addressed the Herts Agricultural Society at Buntingford. Among various other topics, one of which was the necessity for administrative reform, he censured the discontent which had been expressed with what had been done by our troops. "It is not here, and I hope it would not be anywhere, that I would dwell on what has been urged, I think, somewhat hastily, in some of the newspapers, in mitigation of our joy at the victory for which we have rendered up our thanksgivings to the Divine Arbitrator of human destinies. It is true that we did not storm the Malakoff, and therefore had not so direct and immediate a share in the taking of Sebastopol as the French—but what then? Look at that emblem before you; it is inscribed with the initials of Victoria and Napoleon, surrounded by the same wreath. What does that mean? Why, it means that England and France are a single army, and that the glory of the one is the glory of the other. Do you believe there is any Frenchman who would deny us our full share of the laurel-tree which took its roots on the hills of Alma, because the last gale in the storm of battle drifted its leaves towards the ranks of the French? Why, in the next turn of the wind those leaves might be drifted towards us. But, gentlemen, I will never for the paltry purpose of damaging a government to whom I may have been opposed—no, I never will consent to disparage English soldiers; and though I will not, upon imperfect and hasty evidence, censure an absent general, for whom, as for all military appointments, the government alone can be held responsible, still, there is one useful and most wholesome lesson that ought to be impressed upon our minds,—for we Englishmen can bear to be told of our faults, and I have always observed through life, that the man who is most painfully sensitive to the fear of failure is always the man most sure of ultimate success." Sir Edward condemned the conduct of the seceders of last session, and applauded the majority in parliament for supporting the government. "For myself as a member of parliament, I say to you, in my proud position as one of the members for the county of Hertford, that I never will, either from party motives, or, God forbid, from personal ambition, be an instrument to displace any government which shall seem to me firmly and skilfully to maintain the national honour, and finally to conclude our quarrel. Neither will I, on the other hand, stoop to support any government from whose feeble or faithless hands the sword would drop paralysed or the olive-branch be dishonoured. But, gentlemen, never let us forget that we fight not for dominion nor revenge; we fight for another and different object—we fight for the tranquillity of Europe, and for its defence. Never, in the flush of triumph, or fear of disaster, or heat of contest, let our passions blind us to those definite objects, and never let us be content with less. Duly mindful of the horrors of carnage, and the iniquity of vengeance, do not let us, by demanding more than we are entitled to claim, become the scourge of humanity, instead of being, what we now are, its shield and defence."

The Duke of Cambridge visited Liverpool, on the 5th

inst., accompanied by the Earl of Derby, whose guest his Royal Highness was, at Knowsley. The duke was received with the utmost enthusiasm by the authorities, and by thousands of the inhabitants, who crowded the streets and windows. In the evening, the mayor gave a grand banquet; at which, in addition to the above distinguished guests, the Bishop of Chester, Mr. Walpole, Sir Harry Smith, the local members, and many other gentlemen, were present. The Duke of Cambridge, after expressing his gratitude for the reception given him—a part intended, no doubt, for himself, but the greater part for our Army in the East—spoke of the warm affection which subsisted, when he was in the Crimea, between the French and English, and the personal feelings between himself and Marshal St. Arnaud, and General Canrobert. He dwelt also on the advantage which the French had over us, at the outset, in organisation. When the war broke out, we had no land transport corps at all, and no ambulance, and we landed in a country where no horses or forage could be procured. The commissariat was a department of the treasury, and the officers arrived in the Crimea with little or no experience of the work they had to perform. They were willing to learn, anxious to do their duty, and desirous to receive suggestions. But, under all the circumstances, it was not to be wondered at that deficiencies manifested themselves which made every one impatient. Officers were impatient, men were impatient, and, said the duke, "I was impatient." But he saw around him many eminent merchants having establishments in every part of the globe, and he would ask them whether a space of three, four, or five months would enable them to form those establishments and make those ramifications in every part of the globe which are essential to the success of their undertakings and the harmony and efficiency of their action? Time must be given for establishing the necessary organisation, and our establishments are now fast attaining an efficiency worthy of this great country. The lesson to be learnt from these events—and he trusted it would not be forgotten after the peace—was not to starve our establishments during a time of peace, or to maintain them in such a low state of efficiency as if we thought that war was impossible. Advertising to another topic—the duration of the war—he said he was glad to see that Liverpool, although interested in the return of peace, was unanimous for the continuance of the war until its objects are attained. In that sentiment he entirely coincided; and he had a strong opinion that a peace concluded at the present moment would not be an honourable, durable, and lasting peace. Until such a peace could be concluded, he was for carrying on the war with all possible vigour and determination; and he was gratified to find that this also was the opinion of the inhabitants of Liverpool. Expressing a high opinion of the officers, he said that for himself he had been compelled, to his great regret, to leave the army in the East in consequence of the state of his health; but now, thank God, his health was restored, and nothing would give him greater pleasure than to rejoin the army in the Crimea. His Royal Highness's address was received with loud cheers.

A large meeting of the inhabitants of Jersey was held at St. Hélier on the 13th inst., to take into consideration certain statements published in a weekly newspaper called *L'Homme*, the organ of the Red Republican party of refugees in the island. The statements in question were contained in a report of a meeting held in London by a body of foreign refugees, at which a letter was read from M. Felix Pyat, a notorious revolutionist, containing gross and scandalous attacks on the Queen of England and the Emperor of the French. The chair was taken by M. Le Quesne, the mayor of the town, who, in opening the proceedings, said:—"Refugees of every nation, and under all circumstances, are hospitably received here, but that is no reason why they should, with impunity, commit breaches of the law, and at length do something so scandalously incorrect that the eye of the law could no longer refrain from noticing such infamous conduct. Some refugees have acted with discretion by the proper feeling they have shown respecting this publication, and while residents here have acted as quiet and good men should do; but those who have

taken part in the publication of *L'Homme* are of such a character that, allowing them longer to print this paper, would be a disgrace and a stigma on this island, so famed for its loyalty, and the warmest attachment to the Queen and Crown of England, which has been so scandalously assailed personally, and her rule and government brought into contempt." Resolutions were then moved and carried, to the effect that the journal called *L'Homme*, having for its objects the suppression of Christianity, the propagation of socialism, and the destruction of all thrones, including that of our own Sovereign, and being the vehicle of gross abuse of the Emperor of the French, and scandalous aspersions against the Queen, is an outrage on the moral laws of hospitality and the feelings of a Christian and loyal community; and that the meeting, therefore, trust that immediate measures will be taken for its suppression. A deputation was appointed to wait on the Lieutenant-Governor with the proceedings. Having done so, his Excellency assured them that he should take immediate measures to carry out the wishes of the inhabitants. Accordingly the Constable of St. Helier verbally communicated to MM. Piancini (the proprietor), Ribeyrolles (the editor), and Thomas (the distributor of the journal *L'Homme*), his Excellency's commands, that they should quit the island on or before Saturday, the 20th inst. The proceedings of the meeting have been communicated to the French and British Governments. The above persons have left Jersey and taken refuge in Guernsey.

At a meeting of the Court of Common Council of London, on the 18th inst., Mr. Anderton brought forward his annual motion in favour of petitioning Parliament to *Abolish the Oath of Abjuration*. Mr. Parker moved the "previous question," but, after a long discussion, the amendment was negatived by 30 to 6, and the original motion was carried.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

CASES of *Brutal Treatment of Wives* continue to be of daily occurrence. The police reports of one day, the 2nd inst., contain four such cases. They all occurred on Saturday night—the drunkard's weekly festival of vice and brutality. In three cases out of the four, it was not the first, but the second, third, and fourth recorded offence. These are the cases:—Michael Newman returned home on Saturday, maddened by drink. He took his supper and went to sleep. His wife carried home some laundry work, and on returning found the ruffian asleep on the ironing-board. She asked him to rise—she tried to lift up his head. This roused him, and he then struck her, dragged her about by her hair, kicked her in the eye, and when she got up he locked the door, and repeated his brutalities until neighbours released his victim. Michael Newman had been married twenty-five years, and was the father of eleven children. The brutality displayed on Saturday was the climax of years of similar conduct, varied occasionally with the flourish of a carving-knife, and threats to "do for her." "He has been," said his wife, "four times charged with assaulting me; in fact, for years he has behaved in this way to me."—Thomas Toome, "in the constant habit of ill-treating his wife without cause," came home and beat his wife's head against the wall, and kicked her until neighbours and the police came to the rescue. The poor woman was suckling a child, and the injuries she received made her incapable of giving it further nourishment. Mrs. Toome said that "she had been beaten by her husband before, but had forgiven him on a promise to behave better." In the former case, the cause seems to have been sheer love of brutality, in the latter "jealousy" is the ground set up as a defence.—The third case was that of David Stubbs and his wife. Here there had been drinking on both sides. Stubbs, "a quiet man when sober," knocked his wife about, and she, with her daughter, dropped out of the first-floor window into the street. Stubbs had ill-used his wife before, and was once in custody, but the woman refused to prosecute.—Edward Gellings, a "strolling player," finding that Mrs. Gellings had not paid the rent, beat her and knocked her through the window. In this case the husband alleged the

"temper" of his wife, who it seems mainly supported him, as a provocation.

A Shocking Case of the same kind came before the coroner's jury at Wigan, on the 2nd inst., when an inquest was held on the body of a young woman named Bridget Ashcroft, whose death was alleged to have been caused by the violence of James Ashcroft, her husband. The evidence was to the effect that on the 21st ult., she and her husband went to a funeral, and on returning from it remained drinking with other company at the Angel Inn until midnight. They took away with them some liquor, and drank it at the house of a neighbour, after leaving the Angel. There was no evidence as to the time they proceeded homewards, but at a late hour in the morning the husband was seen beating his wife in a passage leading to their residence. In the encounter she dropped her infant child, which he took up and held under one arm while he struck her with the other hand. Ultimately he knocked her down, and then kicked her repeatedly. The unfortunate woman was sitting on the ground for a time while he was kicking at her, but at length fell senseless on her back, and in this condition was carried home by a policeman and other persons. The jury found a verdict of "Manslaughter" against the husband, who was committed for trial at the next South Lancashire assizes.

The colliers of Peneywaun, in South Wales, have applied a sort of *Lynch Law* to the case of *Wife Beating*. A collier having struck his wife, a number of fellow workers seized him, set him astride a plank, and around him round the neighbourhood, while an accompanying crowd caned him. Then he was admonished on the wickedness of his conduct, and induced to fall on his knees and promise never to beat his wife again.

A case illustrative of the hardship of the present *Law of Divorce* came before the Thames Police Court on the 6th inst. A respectable mechanic addressed the magistrate and said, that he had the misfortune to have a very bad wife, who had become a prostitute on the streets, and had threatened to sue him for a maintenance.—Mr. Yardley: If she has proved faithless to you, you are not bound to maintain her.—The applicant said his wife, by a long course of dissipation and profligacy, had ruined him and her children, and had got in debt in all directions. He asked if he could not marry again, for the purpose of obtaining a person to take care of his children.—Mr. Yardley: No; you cannot marry again until her death. If you do, you will be liable to an indictment for bigamy.—The Applicant: Can I not be divorced from her?—Mr. Yardley said there was no law to enable a poor man to obtain a divorce from a faithless wife; it was a long, expensive, and tedious process, beyond the reach of a mechanic or labourer.—The Applicant: Then I can obtain no redress?—Mr. Yardley: I am afraid not. Let her take her own course, but you are not bound to maintain her if she is a prostitute.

A child of four years old has been *Murdered* by a boy at Hungerford. On the 9th inst. the body of a little boy was found on the Downs, with his head fearfully mutilated. It was discovered to be the body of a child named Rosier, whose father is a labourer. It was subsequently ascertained that a boy named Sopp, twelve years of age, was sent out to the Downs by his master to eat some furze, for which purpose he took a billhook. At eight o'clock in the morning he was seen walking hand-in-hand with the child. Sopp was apprehended, and confessed that the billhook slipped out of his hand and struck the child; he was afraid he should be blamed for this, and therefore killed the child outright. Sopp bears a very indifferent character, having been before the magistrates several times for petty offences. An inquest held on the body on Wednesday, resulted in a verdict of "Wilful murder against William Sopp." He has been committed for trial.

At the Wolverhampton County Court, a *Russian Subject lately Sued a Jew for Wag s.* But when the complainant admitted that he was born near Warsaw, the charge was dismissed by the judge—the rights of a Russian in England being in abeyance in time of war.

The Roman Catholic priest of Blarney, the Rev. Mr. Peyton, having *Refused to Pay his Income-tax*, the Commissioners ordered his horse to be seized and sold

by auction. Placards informing the public of the alleged injustice were distributed in Cork; and when the horse was led out for sale at the Bazaar on Saturday, the multitude assembled hissed, hooted, hustled, and otherwise impeded the proceedings. After much ado, however, the sale was effected, and the horse was sold for £1. 1s. 6d. Mr. Peyton then addressed the crowd to place them in possession of the "reasons" for his conduct. He alleged that priests are not treated like other citizens by the government; that they cannot, like artisans or Protestant ministers, recover their dues; and he declared that, for his own part, until he enjoys those privileges which his fellow citizens enjoy, he will never voluntarily pay income-tax. He concluded a violent tirade by exclaiming, "The Income-Tax Commissioners have gratified their vindictive feeling against the Irish priests—much good may it do them!"

The Worcestershire magistrates having convicted and fined a labourer named Nathaniel Williams, charged with *Cutting some Wheat belonging to himself on the Sabbath Day*, the matter came under the notice of the home secretary, who intimated to the magistrates his opinion that the conviction was not warranted by law. The statute says "That a conviction may take place against any man for following his ordinary calling on the sabbath day." Now the ordinary calling of Nathaniel Williams was that of a hired labourer, working for others for his pay. But in saving his own corn he was no more exercising his ordinary calling of a labourer for hire than would be a barber shaving himself, or a tailor mending a rent in his own garment. It is known to all lawyers that penal laws should be construed strictly, and that no punishment should be inflicted that is not strictly warranted by the words of the act. At a meeting of Petty Sessions on the 9th inst., the Rev. J. Pearson communicated the official letter from the Home Office, but refused to admit the soundness of Sir G. Grey's opinion. The other magistrates concurred with Mr. Pearson, and said that if the case were brought before them again, they would do just as they had done before. The magistrates, however, have repaid the fine and costs imposed upon Nathaniel Williams.

Lord Ernest Vane Tempest, an officer of the 2nd Life Guards, has been fined 5*l.* by the Windsor magistrates for *Assaulting Mr. Nash, the Lessee of the Windsor Theatre*. It appears that his lordship with some companions went behind the scenes to amuse themselves, which they had been habitually permitted by the lessee to do. On this occasion his lordship's amusement consisted in turning off the gas, and forcing his way into the ladies' dressing-room. As he refused to withdraw, a policeman was sent for, on whose appearance his lordship walked out. He then desired to speak with Mr. Nash; on seeing the lessee, he dragged him to the top of some steep stairs leading beneath the stage, exclaiming, "You dared to send a policeman to me; now I will break your infernal neck; I'll kill you." "For God's sake, do not kill me in cold blood," gasped Mr. Nash. But Lord Ernest Vane Tempest hurled him from the top with all his force, and, running down, dashed his fist in his face as he lay on the ground. Such was the offence proved before the magistrates, and punished as above. Lord Ernest has since left the Life Guards, having exchanged into the 4th Light Dragoons now serving in the Crimea.

A most daring *Burglary* was committed on the night of the 10th inst., in the house of Mrs. Mullett, the George Inn, at Worley Wigorn, in the neighbourhood of Birmingham. About one o'clock in the morning Mrs. Mullett heard a noise; and directly afterwards she heard her chamber-door opened, and saw two men enter. They had a lighted candle with them, were dressed in short dirty smock frocks, having their heads and faces covered with black glazed calico. Mrs. Mullett and one of her daughters occupied this room, and upon seeing the intruders they commenced screaming "Murder, thieves," &c. Both the burglars went up to them, placed their hands upon their throats, and quietly threatened that if they did not hold their peace it would fare worse with them. The fellows broke open and ransacked the boxes in the room, and then ordered Mrs. Mullett and her daughter to leave the bed, which the latter did, to allow of the mattress, &c. being searched.

A bottle of wine was found in the bed-room, and after drinking part of the contents, they politely asked the landlady and her daughter to taste too, "as they seemed low and faint," but the offer was refused. As they were leaving, Mrs. Mullett made some noise, and one of the fellows then asked the other for a halter "to hang them." The threat had the desired effect, and they left without molestation. In the meantime a similar scene was being enacted by two other burglars, similarly dressed, with the black caps, &c., in another room, where the other inmates of the house slept. They were prevented from making an alarm by being nearly suffocated with a blanket, which one of the fellows held over their mouths. The men, however, were sufficiently merciful to leave behind them, on being entreated to do so, a child's overall and a watch. About 8*o'clock* was stolen from the bar. Just before leaving they returned also to Mrs. Mullett's room, and asked her if she would know them again. She replied in the negative, and they rejoined that if ever she caused them to be apprehended and was seen from home, she would never return alive. They bade her not to stir for two hours, and then left. The doors were found open by some persons passing at five o'clock in the morning, and it was afterwards found that ingress had been effected through some bed-room windows, which the burglars were enabled to reach by means of ladders which had been left by painters near the house. A "jemmy" had been used underneath the sash to burst off the fastening at the top.

An atrocious *Attempt to Murder* has taken place in the county of Cavan. On the 12th inst., Miss Hinds, a lady of property, when returning home about four o'clock, was met in the avenue leading to her home by two ruffians, who dragged her off the car, knocked her down with loaded sticks, and then deliberately fired no fewer than three pistol-shots into her face and head; after which they walked quietly away, leaving her for dead. The unfortunate lady was shortly afterwards carried on a door to her own house in the most excruciating agony, having, besides the beating from the sticks, received no fewer than four bullets in the face and head. Some eighteen months ago, sworn information was given that this lady was soon to be shot; and a communication to that effect was then made to the government, who ordered that she should get a police escort, at all times she might call for such; but she only availed herself of the privilege on one or two occasions. Miss Hinds dared to exercise the rights over the property which she had purchased in the encumbered estates court; she dared to look for and enforce payment of her rents from refractory tenants by ejectment, which would have been tried at the approaching sessions at Ballyconnell. There are many houses near the scene of the outrage, but no person appeared to help the lady; indeed, nearly all the tenants happened to be ostentatiously attending Ballyconnell market that day. The man who drove Miss Hinds says he was fired at too—it is not believed. Government has offered 100*l.* reward for the discovery of the murderer. The Lord Lieutenant has offered a further reward of 50*l.* for the arrest of Patrick Bannon, charged with being one of the criminals; and a reward of 100*l.* has been offered by Mr. Henry Grattan to any one who shall give him information against the assassins, so as to convict them. Miss Hinds has since died.

A dreadful *Murder* has been committed at Southampton. On Sunday morning, the 14th instant, during the hours of divine service, at the house of the Rev. Mr. Poynder, of 1, Moira place, Naomi Kingswell, a fine girl of about twenty-three years of age, was deliberately shot by a fellow servant, named Edward Baker. They had lived as servants in the family for about five months, being previously known to each other in the Isle of Wight. During their stay in Moira place an intimacy was noticed by others in the house to exist between them, and it was evidently intended that they should shortly be married. Some little time since, however, it is said, Baker was guilty of an act which so annoyed the deceased, that after informing him of it, she told him that she would no longer receive him as a suitor. Baker, however, persisted that the story was untrue, and continued to renew his previous attentions,

which the deceased has steadfastly refused. On the above morning, while the girl was in the kitchen, Baker came behind her, and placing a loaded pistol at the back of her ear, deliberately blew her brains out. An alarm was immediately raised by the other servant, who at once rushed to the front door in a state of the greatest alarm, and, a policeman having arrived, the murderer was taken into custody, and lodged in the police-station. As soon as Baker had murdered his victim he remained perfectly still, and never attempted in the slightest degree to make his escape, or excuse himself for his horrible conduct. The prisoner was brought before the magistrates next day, when he was committed for trial. He has since made a confession. After he had committed the murder he appeared stupefied, but soon after he was committed for trial he became aware of his dreadful situation, and sent for the mayor to make a communication to him. Baker is a very ignorant man, being unable to spell the commonest words correctly. His excuse for the murder is that he entertained a sincere attachment for his victim, and that she was perpetually tantalising him by accepting and rejecting his attentions, and that, after behaving to him in this way for some considerable time, she finally rejected him with contempt. He had a wedding ring in his possession when he was apprehended, by which it would seem that he had contemplated being married to the poor girl he murdered.

On two successive Sundays, the 14th and 21st, attempts have been made to create disturbances in Hyde-park, under the pretext of holding meetings on the subject of the *High Price of Bread*. Several thousand persons were got together each day, who listened to some inflammatory harangues, but no breach of the peace took place, nor was any interference of the police necessary.

At the meeting of the Middlesex Magistrates on the 18th, a report from the Visiting Justices of the House of Detention was brought up. A charge had been made that the three bankers, *Strahan, Paul, and Bates*, had not been subjected to the ordinary *Regulations of the Prison*. The charge was investigated, and the justices state that they find it to be borne out by the evidence. The regulations of the prison require that prisoners should not associate or converse with one another: but these prisoners were allowed to associate, converse, and walk with each other, in violation of those rules, and without any consent previously obtained from the Visiting Justices. The regulations of the prison allow prisoners to see two friends daily, but not together, and then only for twenty minutes at a time, except with the express permission of the governor, under very special circumstances: in the case of these prisoners, however, persons were admitted without their names being taken, indiscriminately, at all hours; and as to letters, which by the rules were required to be examined, they were received and passed without being seen or opened by the governor. The prisoners were also allowed to send out letters to their friends, without having to undergo the usual supervision of the governor. Mrs. Strahan visited her husband; she saw him at the governor's house, and remained in his cell until a late hour at night. Wine and fruit were freely brought in for the use of the prisoners. In the case of Paul the wine was ordered by the surgeon, but in the case of the other two the surgeon gave no order. In short, the prisoners lived with the utmost freedom. When Mr. Strahan went out on the 2nd of August, he said to Firth, a warden, "You are getting more harsh every day; and the next thing I expect to hear is to go into the common cell." He said, "The magistrates are a set of Radicals—they are no gentlemen. Never mind; I leave you today. But as for Captain Hill, I shall reward him for his kindness to me." Mr. Woodward moved that Captain Hill the governor should be publicly reprimanded. But Mr. Antrobus moved, as an amendment, "That the governor of the House of Detention be suspended; and that the evidence that has been taken be circulated, and taken into consideration on a future day." This amendment was carried by 24 to 5; and Mr. Sims, the deputy governor, was appointed governor *pro tempore*.

The trial of the bankers, *Strahan, Paul, & Bates*,

came on in the Central Criminal Court on the 26th inst. The indictment stated that the defendants had been intrusted with Danish bonds of the value of 5,000*l* for safe custody, and that they had, without authority, sold these bonds and converted the money to their own use. The circumstances of the case are well known to the public. The bonds in question were the property of Dr. Griffith, prebendary of Rochester, by whose orders the defendants, as his bankers, had invested money belonging to him in the purchase of these bonds. When the bankruptcy took place, Dr. Griffith discovered that the defendants had disposed of his securities for their own purposes, and immediately instituted criminal proceedings against them.—The case for the prosecution having been stated by the Attorney-General, evidence was taken, similar to that already given in the police court. It was proved that Sir John Dean Paul had instructed the Secretary of the National Insurance Company to sell Dr. Griffith's bonds, which he did, and paid over the money to Paul; and Dr. Griffith deposed to conversations subsequent to the bankruptcy, from which it appeared that Mr. Strahan and Mr. Bates were accessory to the transaction. Sir F. Thesiger, who appeared for Mr. Strahan, defended him on the ground that the sale of the Danish bonds was effected solely by Sir John Paul; that he received the proceeds; and that there was no proof that Mr. Strahan was privy to the transaction; and further, that Mr. Strahan, having made a disclosure of the circumstances before the Court of Bankruptcy, was not (according to the Act of 7 & 8 Geo. IV.) liable to be indicted on account of such circumstances.—Mr. Serjeant Byles, for Sir John Paul, admitted the facts as stated by Dr. Griffith; but said that it was his intention to replace the bonds, which was shown by his having subsequently purchased other bonds to a similar amount. He also maintained that Sir J. Paul having made a full disclosure (as he was bound to do) in the Bankruptcy Court, was no longer liable to criminal proceedings.—Mr. James, for Mr. Bates, rested his case upon his total ignorance of the transaction in question. The court then adjourned to the following morning; when, Baron Alderson having charged the jury, they retired, and after an absence of half an hour, returned a verdict of *GUILTY* against all the prisoners. The judge proceeded to pass sentence. After commenting on the heinous nature of the offence, he observed that all the prisoners had been well educated, and had moved in a high position of society. The punishment which was about to fall on them, therefore, would be far more heavy, and more keenly felt than by persons in a lower condition of life. It would also, he regretted to say, afflict those who were connected with them. These, however, were not considerations for him at that moment; all he had to do was to say that he could not conceive any worse case of the sort that could arise under the statute under which they had been convicted, and that being the case, he had no alternative but to pass upon them the sentence which the act of parliament provided for the worst class of offences arising under it—that was, that they be severally transported for the term of fourteen years.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

An inquest has been held on the body of John Hart, guard of a goods-train on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, who was *Killed by a Passenger-train running into his van*, near Kidderminster. The disaster originated from mismanagement at Churchill station. When the luggage-train arrived there, as a passenger-train was not far behind, it should have been put aside till the faster train had passed; but the station-master explained that he had no siding, and he could not shunt it on to the other line, for a train was also just due on that: as the best course, he sent it forward. But when the passenger-train approached shortly after, it was not stopped by signals. The evidence of a number of witnesses as to what signals were exhibited was utterly contradictory; but no one seems to assert that the danger-signal was up before the train

came. The train proceeded, and, though speed was slackened, it soon after ran into the goods-train. The jury pronounced the death "accidental;" but added an opinion that "the accident arose from the very defective arrangements of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway Company, more especially with regard to the want of sufficient sidings, the irregularity in the despatch of goods-trains, and the youth and inexperience of the servants employed."

Mr. John Langley, of Burnley, has *Lost a Limb by attempting to Descend from a Railway-train*, near Burnley, before it had come quite to a stand—he fell, and the carriages passed over his leg.

By an *Explosion of Fire-damp* in a coal-mine at Bilston, said to have been caused by a boy having dropped a lighted candle, two men and a boy have lost their lives, and seven or eight other colliers have been badly burnt. There were a hundred people in the pit, but nearly all escaped unhurt: there were two shafts communicating with the surface, and they ascended the one most distant from the foul air.

Patrick Battle, a lad of 18, has died in Parkhurst prison from *Swallowing Poisonous Pills* with intent to get admitted to the infirmary and its comforts. An inquest having been held on his body, the jury gave a verdict that the deceased died by poison administered by his own hands, with the view to gain admission into the infirmary, and not to occasion his own death.

A dreadful *Boiler Explosion* took place on the 8th inst. at Messrs. Losh, Wilson, and Bell's iron-works, at Walker-on-the-Tyne, which caused death to seven persons; their names are J. Jenkins, J. James, A. Dixon, M. Brodrick, T. Griffith, P. Donnelly, and J. Porter. Two men are also lying hurt at Newcastle infirmary, but several other injured persons, who were conveyed to their homes, are likely to recover. The boiler that exploded was one of two employed to work an engine which was engaged to drive some blast furnaces in the rolling mill upon the works. The engine was in charge of a man named Hall at the time the boiler exploded, and was standing to allow some alterations to be made in some straps. In exploding it lifted the other boiler from its seat, and broke some pipes, which scattered hot water about in every direction, and scalded a number of persons. The boiler was rent asunder, and hurled through the roof of the mill. It came in contact with two large chimneys, which fell, with their furnaces, and buried four of the deceased persons amidst hot bricks and molten metal. It then alighted upon an elevation, and as Dixon was running out of a shed where he had been working, it dropped upon him and crushed him to death. One of the ends fell through the roof of an adjacent alkali works, and took three fingers from the hand of a boy. The other portion, which weighed five hundred weight and a half, fell into a yard amongst some workpeople, but did no harm. Four persons were hurled into the Tyne by the force of the explosion, but sustained only slight injuries, and many of the workpeople had marvellous escapes.

A *Singular Accident* occurred on the 10th inst. at the London-bridge Railway station. A train of fifteen empty carriages were in the act of being withdrawn from the Brighton platform for transmission to New-cross, when, in consequence of the points on the main line being set for a turn-table siding, the engine took a wrong direction, and notwithstanding both the driver and stoker instantly discovered the error, and endeavoured by every possible means to stay the progress of the train, the engine burst through the boundary wall and fell into the street below, dragging after it the guard's break and one first-class carriage, and completely blocking up the thoroughfare of College-street, Bermondsey. The driver and stoker leaped off just as the engine fell over, and escaped unhurt, and as no passengers were in the street below, no personal casualty occurred.

The Hon. Mrs. Matheson met with her Death on Sunday the 30th ult., under very distressing circumstances. Mrs. Matheson left home at Inverinate early on Sunday morning, in order that she might walk leisurely to church, and saunter along the picturesque coast by the way. She did not appear at church, and not returning to Inverinate, the alarm was given, and search made in the neighbourhood, but without effect. Early next

morning, however, as Dr. Maclean was approaching Inverinate, he observed a bonnet and veil on the water, and further search having been made, the body of the unfortunate lady was found in the sea at the base of a rock, which it is supposed she had climbed to enjoy the fine view of Loch Duich which it affords. The deceased lady was sister to the late Lord Beaumont, was married in 1852 to Mr. Matheson, M.P. for Ardross, and has left two children, the youngest only a few months old.

The misconduct of a *Drunken Engine-driver* has caused a fatal accident in the Clyde, on board the steamer Duchess of Argyle. George Dunwood, the engineer, got so intoxicated that, when the steamer left Helensburgh, he could neither back nor set on the engines, and fiercely attacked every one who went into the engine-room to assist in the working of the engines, until he was overpowered, and secured till the vessel reached her destination. On the vessel's return to Glasgow, when approaching the berth to land her passengers, the engines, instead of being stopped, were set on full speed, in consequence of which the vessel ran up a good way under one of the arches of the bridge, nearly carrying away the funnel and paddle-boxes, to the great alarm of the passengers, but much more so of the captain (M'Pherson), who, on seeing the danger, fell down in a fit, and has since expired at Garelochhead.

A *Railway Collision* occurred on the London and North Western line on the 13th instant, at Heaton Norris, near Stockport, by the mail train from Manchester to London running into a goods train. The mail leaves Manchester at 4:24 in the morning, and is due at Stockport about 4:33. At the Heaton Norris station the driver of a goods train was shunting out of the way, when, either from the danger signal not being displayed or from inattention to it on the part of the driver of the mail train, the collision occurred whilst the mail was proceeding at a high speed. The shock was exceedingly severe, crushing and breaking the carriages and wagons of the two trains considerably, and the passengers of the mail train were thrown from their seats with great violence, and were more or less injured.

At the Southwark Police Court, on the 16th instant, James Sopp, a switchman and signalman in the employ of the South Eastern Railway Company, was summoned before Mr. A'Beckett, for *Neglect of Duty*. The solicitor to the company stated that the defendant had for some time held the situation of switchman and signalman in the company's service, and was employed at the crossing between the Bricklayers' Arms Station and junction of the line. It was his duty to attend to the gates which opened for the public to cross, place signals for the drivers, and set the points for the trains. On the 3rd inst., it was the prisoner's duty to attend to those points, and on the arrival of a train from Brighton for the Bricklayers' Arms Station, the usual signal was not up for the train to proceed. The driver with proper caution, stopped the train, and got off the engine to see what was the cause of the impediment, when he discovered the defendant asleep in his box. The defendant's solicitor hoped his worship would be lenient, as it was not a passenger train that was impeded, therefore the lives of the public were not endangered. Mr. A'Beckett said that the lives of the engineer and stoker were endangered, and he should inflict a penalty of 5*l.* on defendant, and in default of payment commit him to the House of Correction for three months, with hard labour.

A fatal *Accident* has happened at Woolwich to two artillery gunners. On the 16th inst., Captain Inglefield's company turned out on Tuesday for target practice with round shot and shell, firing at a target distant 1,500 yards. Eight rounds had been fired from the 56-pounder in turn with four 32-pounders, the 56-pounder firing round shot, the 32's shell. On firing the ninth shot from the 56-pounder the shot had left the gun, and was near the target, when from some unaccountable cause the gun burst into pieces, the whole of the inner end of the gun dropping at least one hundred yards from its original position, the outer end taking an opposite direction, doing considerable damage to the next gun carriage on the same battery. The outer fragments of the gun

cut both legs and part of the lower part of the body of Gunner George Brown the 2nd, and cut the upper part of the head off of Gunner G. Gosling. Brown was alive when taken off the battery, but has since died. Gosling was killed on the spot. Several fragments of the gun, with the entire inner end, passed within arm's reach of Captain Inglefield and Lieutenant G. Maule. Had the sad accident occurred five minutes sooner, from six to eight persons must have been killed, as they had only that moment left the place.

A soldier of the Foreign Legion has *lost his Life at Portsmouth under very lamentable circumstances*. A number of the men attempted to force their way out of barracks, contrary to order; the sentries were directed to resist them; and two presented their bayonets. In the excitement and confusion, Joseph Goltwaltz, a Frenchman, ran upon the bayonet of Nusbaum, a German; and almost instantaneous death ensued. An unfortunate feeling has been created between the French and German soldiers by the misadventure. Nusbaum is in custody. An inquest was held on the body, when it was clearly proved that the soldier on guard only performed his duty; and that the deceased himself, in his furious excitement, ran upon the bayonet presented against him. The verdict therefore was "Justifiable homicide."

Two persons were accidentally *Killed near Harrogate on the evening of the 18th inst.*—William Rhodes and Benjamin Burrows, the former a farmer from Staigburn, and the latter a woodsman from Farnley, near Otley, were returning in a spring-cart from Knaresborough sheep fair. Between Harrogate and Beckwithshaw, Rhodes had occasion to get out of the cart. In doing so he fell as ride the shaft, which set the horse kicking and plunging. He was thrown off, and hit in the face by the infuriated animal. The horse's shoe struck the ball of the eye, destroyed it, produced a pressure on the brain, and caused instantaneous death. Burrows, who is an old man upwards of seventy years of age, in the meantime was endeavouring to get out of the cart, and while doing so the horse ran backward into the deep ditch, which upset the cart and the old man, and the horse fell upon him. He had to remain under the animal a length of time before assistance could be obtained to release him, and when taken up was found to be quite dead. Two boys were in the under part of the cart, but escaped with little injury.

A destructive *Fire took place at Monkwearmouth, on the morning of the 20th*, at the Patent Ropery belonging to Mr. Hay. It is supposed that the accident was caused by a boy who lighted a lucifer match near some hemp. No lives were lost, some of the workmen having saved themselves with difficulty by leaping from the windows. But the whole of the valuable machinery is destroyed, and a large quantity of rope and hemp. Altogether the damage is estimated at about 10,000*l.*

A great *Fire took place at Rochdale*, which destroyed two large cotton-mills belonging to Messrs. Jennings. The loss of property is estimated at 25,000*l.*; and several hundred workpeople are thrown out of employment at an inclement season, and at a time of great depression in the trade.

On Wednesday night, the 24th inst., a serious *Railway Accident* happened on the Croydon and Mitcham line, near Beddington. The line was only opened two days before, and consists of only a single line of rails. The engine of a passenger train ran off the rails, dragging the tender and passenger carriage after it. One of the carriages was smashed to pieces, the driver was killed on the spot, and several persons were hurt, but not dangerously. The driver is said to have been a very steady and experienced man.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE friends of the *Reformatory Schools* have had several meetings, on the occasion of the visit to this country of M. Demetz, the founder of the celebrated Institution at Mettray.

On the 3rd inst. there was a meeting in Birmingham in aid of the Warwickshire Institution. Among the

distinguished persons present were Sir Eardley Wilmot, in the chair; Lord Calthorpe, Lord Leigh, Lord Lyttelton, Mr. Adderley, Mr. Monckton Milnes, the Birmingham and Warwickshire Members, the Rev. Sydney Turner, the Rev. Angel James, and the Archdeacon of Coventry. In acknowledgment of his health, proposed by Lord Lyttelton, M. Demetz spoke in French to this effect:—I scarcely know how to thank you for the interest you express in the colony of Mettray, and the good-will you have shown to its director. I have readily accepted the invitation with which you have honoured me, in the hope of both learning and imparting something that may be useful, so that our two countries may profit by our common labour. That free trade, about which some still doubt in reference to commercial interests, can find nothing but approvers when it concerns the interchange of thoughts and views which may be useful to society and to mankind. In the fair domain of benevolence we are but one people. The customhouse and the frontier are unknown. Linked as we already are in policy, let us unite ourselves together by the still more lasting bonds of charity; and what sweeter application of that virtue can there be than the helping of the young? It matters not to what class they belong; if they have shown perverted dispositions, there is the more reason to assist them. To despair of the young is to despair of mankind. Let us despair of none. If under many circumstances we have not fully succeeded in our efforts, it is perhaps because we have not done all that was needed to insure success. Let us prove to the sceptic, by our zeal, that when the improvement of man is in question, to be willing is to be able, if we only will with a deeply devoted heart, and that he will not shrink from any sacrifice where the training of the child is concerned. No sacrifice can be more painful. The least offering may do something to eradicate a vice or to awaken a virtue. It is the saying of a great statesman, that 'on the good training of the young depends the prosperity of the state.' May all success attend the work you have here in hand, and extend it more and more widely; and may the good providence of God grant long life and happiness to the devoted and earnest men who have given it their powerful sanction and generous support."

On the 6th there was a numerous meeting at Bristol, on the invitation of Mr. Commissioner Hill, to hear M. Demetz an exposition of the principles on which the establishment at Mettray has been founded, and is at present conducted. M. Demetz, having been introduced to the meeting by Mr. Hill, said:—"My attention was drawn to the subject of reforming young offenders by the numbers of children brought before me in the performance of my duty as judge at Paris. Many of these were no higher than my desk, and, as there were at that time no establishments for the reformation of juveniles only, I was obliged to consign all to prisons, where they were associated with grown-up criminals, most of them the most hardened of their class, where, moreover, the treatment for children was the same as for adults, and which, consequently, I knew to be utterly unfit for them. M. de Courteilles and myself commenced the institution of Mettray in July, 1839, by assembling twenty-three youths of respectable parentage, whom for six months we occupied ourselves in training for teachers. We thus began the Ecole Preparatoire, or school for officials, which I believe to be the most important feature of the institution, so important, indeed, that if that were to be given up Mettray itself must cease to exist. In January, 1840, we admitted twelve young criminals, and very gradually increased the number. Mettray has first for its basis religion, without which it is impossible for such an institution to succeed; secondly, the family principle for a bond; and thirdly, the military discipline adopted at Mettray is this—the lads wear a uniform, and they march to and from their work, their lessons, and their meals with the precision of soldiers, and to the sound of a trumpet and drum. But, as the sound of the trumpet and the drum lead men to perform acts of heroism, and surmount the greatest difficulties, may it not reasonably be employed with the same object at a reformatory school, where, in resisting temptation

and conquering vicious habits, true heroism is displayed, and a marvellous power of overcoming difficulties must be called forth? A striking proof of the hold the system had obtained over the minds of the boys was given at the time of the revolution of 1848. France was then from one end of the country to the other in a state of anarchy, and all the Government schools were in rebellion. At Mettray, without walls, without coercion, there was not a sign of insubordination; not a single child attempted to run away. It was in allusion to the absence of walls M. le Baron de la Crosse, Secrétaire du Sénat, observed, 'Here is a wonderful prison, where there is no key, but the *clef des champs!* If your children remain captive it is proved you have discovered the key of their hearts.' During the revolution a band of workmen came to Mettray with flags flying and trumpets sounding, and, meeting the youths returning tired from field-labour, their pickaxes on their shoulders, thus addressed them:—'My boys, be not such fools as to work any longer. Bread is plentiful; it is ready for you without labour.' The *chef* who was conducting the lads, and who behaved with the greatest calmness and tact, immediately cried, 'Halt! form in line.' The lads, being accustomed to march like soldiers, immediately formed. The *chef* then stepped forward and said to the men, 'My friends, you have learned to labour; you have a right to rest; but leave these lads; let them learn now, and when their turn comes they may rest as you do.' The men gave way, the youths marched home, and Mettray was saved—saved, as I believe, by our habit of military discipline. Had those lads been walking homewards without rule like a flock of sheep, the men would have got among them, carried away one or two, and the rest would have followed; but, drawn up in line, they met the attack in one body, and thus it was repelled. M. Demetz proceeded to give other interesting details of the system pursued in Mettray, and concluded his address amid general applause.

On the 9th M. Demetz visited the *Reformatory School at Redhill*. He was received by the Rev. Sydney Turner and a large party; and the boys, who had made the place gay with flowers, were assembled in the schoolroom. Here eleven boys who have passed through their period of probation in the school, and will in a few days emigrate to the Colonies, advanced and read a simple address of welcome and thanks; to which M. Demetz listened and replied with great earnestness and emotion. "Some of us," said the boys, "have brothers in the army of England, who are now with the sons of France fighting the battle of freedom for the world. Will you say to our comrades at Mettray, that we hope both they and we will always be found side by side fighting against the world's greatest enemies—fraud, and falsehood, and wrong." These, it must be observed, were not mere words of course; the boys at Redhill subscribed to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund on the occasion of the recent thanksgiving for the successes before Sebastopol very nearly 5*l* out of their own personal savings. They did the same on a similar occasion last year. M. Demetz expressed himself highly gratified with his visit. He left a subscription for the society, constituting himself a Governor. He solicited release for any boys under punishment; but, happily, there were none; and in lieu he asked that they might have a holiday at an early day, and gave them eighty francs for a treat on the occasion.

The *Berks Reformatory School*, established at Shinfield, is now ready for the reception of juvenile offenders. A meeting to further this and the extension of similar institutions was held at Reading on the 9th instant.

A *Reformatory Institution* has been formed in Yorkshire. At the first public meeting lately held at York,—the Earl of Zetland in the Chair,—a report was adopted recommending immediate action, and proposing a plan. The object of the society is to establish a single school-farm. The Earl of Carlisle has offered a site of forty-three acres near to Castle Howard on reasonable terms, and that offer the society has determined to accept. They also agreed upon the rules for the regulation of the society's affairs, and appointed a committee to conduct them.

The meeting of the *Docking Agricultural Society*,

at South Creake in Norfolk, derived peculiar importance from the address delivered by the President, the Earl of Leicester. His principal topic was the means of *Improving the Condition of the Rural Population*. "We are not together," he observed, "for the purpose of rewarding and encouraging the agricultural labourer. This association can do a great deal; but a great deal rests with the owner of the cottage in which the labourer resides, and next with the occupier of the land on which he is employed. First, as to the owner of the cottage. I have the misfortune—at least the misfortune as far as I am concerned—to be a very considerable owner of cottage property. I have endeavoured, as far as I can, to improve the cottage of the labourer; and in doing so I trust I have both physically and morally improved his condition. In the first place, I have endeavoured in building my cottages to provide such accommodation as will allow a human being to live in the way in which a man should live. In the next place, I have endeavoured to build those cottages at as little possible loss to myself as I can. To expect a profit from cottage property without screwing the tenant, is impossible. By not allowing lodgers to be taken in, by enforcing a few other simple rules which it is necessary to make with the labouring classes, and by having my tenants in nearly every case directly under me as their landlord, I firmly believe that I have improved their condition both physically and morally. Now, gentlemen, as to the master who employs the labourer. When I, as an owner of cottage property, have done as much as I possibly can to improve the condition of the labourer, much still rests with the master who employs him. I believe, gentlemen, a good master makes a good man. I believe, if a little more attention is paid in looking after the labourers we employ, we may make them, in many cases, much more efficient, and give them a much greater interest in the soil on which they work and the prosperity of the master who employs them. I believe that when we take labourers from another farm, by making a few inquiries into their characters at the place which they have left—by paying the same kind attention that we pay to our domestic servants—by taking, in short, an interest in them which we have hitherto not displayed—we might induce among labourers a regard for character which at present does not exist sufficiently in our district." Referring to the recent tea-festival at Banham, given by Lord Albemarle, and that happy innovation on the practice of giving largess to the labourers, he said—"I believe that the giving of largess has a most injurious effect upon our labourers; in many cases I think it is the first introduction to the beer-shop. In saying this, I don't wish for a moment to lessen the number of holidays and indulgences which our labouring classes possess; for they are few enough now, and I should be rather inclined to increase than to diminish them. It may be said that this custom of largess is an old custom; but if the custom, though old, is a bad one, there is no reason why we should not abandon it. Our forefathers lived on acorns and mast; but that is no reason why we should return to that food. If an old custom is a bad one, let us get rid of it. I believe that the plan carried out at Banham by Lord Albemarle and the clergy and gentry of that district would prove of inestimable benefit to the county if it were adopted throughout Norfolk. One of the great evils we have to contend against is the vice of drunkenness. As an employer, I find I can deal with men, let their vices be what they will, if they are not given to drunkenness. With the drunkard I can do nothing. On the Friday, when he is paid, he goes to his beer-shop, and he won't appear again till Tuesday; and then he will come back in such a state that it is useless to employ him." He hoped the society would endeavour to eradicate that great evil of the county—drunkenness; and in aid thereof, he would give all that he had been accustomed to give in the way of largess, and double the sum, in furtherance of that object. Touching on the question of education, he proposed the establishment of a library for the poor, and schools for adults. "The great difficulty we have to contend with is this: it is all very well to talk about schools and education, but we hold out such inducements to boys six or seven years old,

that in a large family it would be very unnatural if fathers kept their sons at school when they can earn three or four shillings a week. Boys in this district of Norfolk can get certain employment when they are seven or eight years old; they are removed from school at about that age; and I think the most desirable plan would be to endeavour, if possible, to teach those boys in adult schools, when they are old enough to see for themselves that it is desirable to learn."

An Agricultural Society has been Established in Tipperary. It consists of 120 members, and its president is the Earl of Derby. Its first anniversary was held on the 20th ult.; and Lord Stanley, in the absence of his father, presided. In proposing success to the society, Lord Stanley remarked that it was the first time he had addressed a meeting on that side of the Channel. Fifteen years ago there was a Farming Society in Tipperary, a small association, in which the same persons gained the prizes every year. But in the hard times, the times of trouble, that society died a natural death; and this new one, arising at the beginning of a new era for Ireland, was founded on a broader foundation, and comprehended alike the wealthy and the poorer classes. He enlarged on the benefits conferred upon districts and agricultural science by these societies, and pointed out to the amusement of the audience a few of the grosser defects of farming in Ireland—abounding weeds, wasted manure, small farms. It was a calumny to say, as some had said, that the peasantry of Ireland were naturally idle: he did not believe that; he repelled that calumny. Who was it that made the railway? who was it that dug the canals? who was it that did all the hard work that was done in all the great towns in England? who that cleared the new lands in America and removed the forests? who did all these things? in nine cases out of ten he was prepared to answer it was the Irish peasant. Who had improved every country in the world but his own? If he went back to causes for this state of things, no doubt he could find them; but in stating them he should say something that would not be agreeable to all or practically useful at the present moment. He believed that much of the misery they had to deplore was caused not by one class but by all classes, and that all were equally in fault. He would say, let bygones be bygones. He believed that a new era had opened for Ireland, and that they would now consult their own duties by taking immediate advantage of its advent. Let them only use half the energy in the good work which they had wasted in feuds and in factions, in political and sectarian dissensions,—let them do this, and they would go far to make Ireland what God and Nature intended her to be, and what man had hitherto prevented her from becoming—the garden of Europe and of the world. In acknowledging the "health of the Earl of Derby," Lord Stanley apologised for his absence, both then and permanently; and drew down "tremendous cheers" by closing a brief speech with the declaration that he could not forget the maxim which should be written in letters of gold over the door of every landlord, especially every Irish landlord—"Property has its duties as well as its rights."

At the recent anniversary meeting of the *West Buckland Agricultural Society*, Lord Ebrington presided in the absence of his father. In the course of his address he remarked, that although the children of the smaller farmers are making progress, yet, compared with the children of labourers who have the advantage of free institutions established by private benevolence and largely endowed by the State, they are losing ground. This was the preface to an offer of £50. for three years to any farmer's son who should pass the best examination in English history, geography, and practical mathematics.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen, Prince Albert, and Royal Family, have returned to Windsor Castle. They left Balmoral on Tuesday morning, the 16th inst.; rested for the night at Holyrood; and arrived at Windsor next evening.

On the 21st inst. the Queen received an address from

the Corporation of the City of London, congratulating her Majesty on the glorious successes of the British army and fleets, in conjunction with her Majesty's allies. The address was presented by a deputation, consisting of the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and principal members and officers of the Corporation. They were received at Windsor by her Majesty, seated on the throne, with Prince Albert on her left, and attended by the great officers of state and the members of the royal household. The Queen returned a most gracious answer; and the Lord Mayor, Alderman Wire, and Deputy Dakin (the mover and seconder of the address), had the honour of kissing hands.

The Queen has conferred the Regius Professorship of Greek, vacant by the death of the late Dean of Christchurch, on the Reverend Benjamin Jowett, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Balliol College.

A meeting has been held at Rochdale for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Mr. Sharman Crawford, the late member for that borough.

The people of Oldham have held a public meeting, convened by the Mayor, and adopted a memorial to the Queen, praying her Majesty "to grant an unconditional pardon to John Frost, Zephaniah Williams, and William Jones, but more especially to John Frost, as that unfortunate gentleman has expressed a strong desire to return to his native country before he dies, being now upwards of seventy years of age."

The Friendly Societies of Manchester gave a tea-party at the Victoria Hotel on the 27th ult., for the purpose of presenting an address to Mr. Bright, and of voting thanks to Mr. Gibson and Mr. Sotheron for their exertions in defeating Lord Palmerston's Friendly Societies Bill of 1854, and in passing the bill of 1855.

The Earl of Clanerty, a Protestant nobleman, has granted a site for a Roman Catholic presbytery-house at Ballinasloe.

Prince Frederick William of Prussia left Balmoral on the 1st inst.; the Queen and Prince Albert escorting him to Castleton of Braemar. Before he departed, however, he had been joined by one of his Aides-de-camp, Baron de Moltke, who remained as a guest of the Queen for three days.

Captain and Brevet-Major the Honourable Leicester Curzon, of the Rifle Brigade, the bearer of the despatch announcing the successes achieved by the army under the command of General Simpson and the capture of Sebastopol, has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.

Sergeant Brodie, who interfered to prevent a duel, or mock duel, arising out of the practical jokes, among military officers at Canterbury, is no longer in active service: he has been superannuated, with a low rate of pension. His appointments in the regiment were lucrative, and it is considered that he has been punished for daring to interfere with the freaks of officers. A testimonial expressive of the public feeling has been set on foot, and the Earl of Shaftesbury has subscribed £1. towards it.

Major-General Markham has arrived in England. He has returned home in ill-health, arising principally from a change of climate from India to the Crimea, and from a hurried journey through India, Egypt, and Turkey. His legs are so swollen that he can hardly walk. Although not 50 years of age, he looks almost 70. His face is very thin, and he is literally black with exposure to the sun. He wears an immense beard, which is quite grey.

A numerous meeting of the County Magistrates of Norfolk have resolved to congratulate Major-General Windham on his escape from the perils of the attack on the Redan, and to present him with a handsome sword, in testimony of their sense of his exemplary courage, constancy, and self-devotion.

General Sir George Brown has gone on a continental tour, accompanied by Lady Brown. The gallant general purposes to pass the winter at Nice.

Dr. Southwood Smith has resumed his professional practice. "For more than a quarter of a century," says the *Daily News*, "of zealous service and professional sacrifice, Dr. Southwood Smith has at length been rewarded with the privilege of beginning the world again. The end of his untiring success in pro-

moting sanitary reform—not only by promulgating the scientific truths respecting it, but by personal labour—is to find himself obliged to recommence his career as a practising physician. Doubtless Dr. Smith has not opened his consulting-rooms for private practice in vain; but it is a bitter discouragement to those who devote their talents and their energies to the best interests of the public, to find that, while drones of family and influence burden the pension list, men of action and skill, without 'connexions,' can expect no better fate than that which we are now recording of the foremost sanitary reformer of the time."

Obituary of Notable Persons.

GENERAL HENRY D'OVYLY, Colonel of the 23rd Regiment, died at Nevill Park, Tubbbridge Wells, on the 26th ult., in his 75th year.

ADMIRAL SIR SAMUEL PYM, died at Southampton on the 2nd inst., aged 85.

ADMIRAL GIFFARD has died at his residence in Southampton, at the age of 85. He was the father of Captain Giffard who was killed in the Tiger off Odessa.

The **RIGHT HON. SIR H. ELLIS, K.C.B.**, died at Brighton on the 25th ult. He accompanied Lord Amherst to China, and published an account of the Embassy.

ARNDDEACON BROOKS, the senior Rector of the parish of Liverpool, died suddenly on the 23rd ult., in his 81st year.

The **RIGHT HON. SIR ROBERT ADAMS, G.C.B.**, died on the 3rd inst., at his residence in Mayfair, in his 93rd year.

LORD DELAMERE died on the 30th ult., at his residence in Hereford-street, aged 88.

COUNT SERGIUS OUVAROFF, President of the Imperial Russian Academy of Sciences, died at Moscow on the 16th ult., in the 71st year of his age.

GEORGE CANNING BACKHOUSE, Esq., her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, died on the 31st August, mortally wounded while defending himself from a gang of robbers who had entered his house.

FREDERICK LUCAS, Esq., Member of Parliament for the county of Meath, died on the 24th inst., at the residence of Mrs. Ashby, his mother-in-law, at Staines, in his 43rd year.

M.R. MAY, Superintendent of Police, who was the first man that ever wore the police uniform, died on the 23rd inst. He was highly respected in the force.

REAL-ADmirAL THE HON. W. H. PERCY, died in Portman-square on the 5th inst., in his 65th year.

MAJOR-GENERAL WHITTY, R.A., died on the 2nd inst., at his residence, near Dublin, aged 67. He entered the service in 1805, and was present at the reduction of the Danish Islands in the West Indies in 1807, and the capture of Guadalupe in 1812.

MR. ROSS MOORE, M.P. for Armath, died on the 6th inst., at his residence in that city, after a protracted illness.

PROFESSOR BUSCH, Director of the Observatory of Königsberg, in Prussia, died lately of cholera.

M. MAJENCO, late physician at the Hôtel Dieu in Paris, died on the 8th inst. of a disease of the heart, from which he had been long suffering.

SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH, Bart., Secretary of State for the Colonies, died at his house in Eaton-place on the 22nd inst., after a brief illness, aged 45.

LORD WHARNCLIFFE died on the 22nd inst., at Wortley Hall, the family seat in Yorkshire, in his 55th year.

GENERAL MONTEVECCHIO has died of the wounds received by him at the battle of the Tehernaya.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE Overland Mail has brought advices from *Bombay* to the 12th of September. Very little of general interest is reported. The Sontal insurrection has been entirely suppressed; some thousands have surrendered, but the majority are still safe in their jungles. As the fever season had set in, the advanced posts of the troops had been withdrawn, and the main bodies were preparing to fall back out of the fever range. It is stated that the tranquillity at Lucknow is more apparent than real. The king, on one side, was either besotted with opium or debauchery; and the fanatics, on the other, were secretly instigating the people.

From *Ceylon* we hear that the life of Sir Henry Ward, the governor, was attempted on the 7th of September. Miss Kate Ward, seeing a man in the room where she and her sisters slept, the door of which he bolted, gave an alarm. The man ran out, and in the passage met Sir Henry Ward; who, armed with a stick and revolver, chased him into the drawing-room. Here the intruder, brandishing a knife, came to bay. But the governor shot him in the shoulder, and fought with him until, assistance arriving, the ruffian was overpowered.

By the *West India Mail* we learn that at *Jamaica* the Legislature would meet on the 16th inst. The weather was intensely hot, and the island generally healthy. At *Tobago* affairs had slightly improved. An amended constitution, similar to that of *Jamaica*, had come into operation. The island was healthy, and the weather favourable. At *Barbadoes* the weather was wet, and the prospect of a large crop excellent. At *Demerara* the weather had been dry, and exceedingly favourable for maturing the sugar-cane, many crops of which have considerably improved. Intelligence from *Grenada* reports the island healthy, but business still depressed. The plantations had derived benefit from the weather, but the want of labour was still felt. At *Trinidad* heavy rains had prevailed throughout the month, and the young canes were growing fast. In some instances, however, the crops had suffered materially from the storms.

Intelligence from *Melbourne* has been received to the 26th of July.

Agricultural operations are going on with considerable vigour in the neighbourhood of *Ballarat*. Fencing, clearing, and cropping are, we are told, proceeding in a

style which shows evident earnestness of purpose. The inhabitants are sanguine in their anticipations that the district will ere long become quite an agricultural one, and speculators are already said to be on the look-out for good sites for flour mills.

Riots have taken place at the diggings, which, though not political, have been of formidable magnitude, threatening serious consequences. They arose from a local quarrel between an unruly section of the mining population known as the "Tipperary Boys," and the rest of the diggers: they were decidedly important as evidence of feeling and customs on the diggings, and of the powerlessness of the government in those districts. The "Tipperary Boys" are not all Irishmen, much less all from Tipperary, the name being given to them merely on account of their large possession of those lawless and pugnacious qualities supposed to be characteristic of the inhabitants of that county. It seems that on most of the diggings they congregate in considerable gangs, and have become objects at once of terror and animosity to persons of a more peaceable persuasion.

The local papers give curious glimpses of the progress of colonial society. A new *Theatre Royal* has been opened at *Melbourne*. This magnificent establishment is in respect of dimensions scarcely inferior to *Drury-lane Theatre*; and although it has been finished somewhat in a hurry, the decorations and general appointments are upon a corresponding scale of splendour. The audience portion of the theatre has capacity for accommodating over three thousand persons; and the stage, which has been laid down with every attention to recent improvements, is, for extent and adaptability for the purpose intended, equal to that of the great national establishment to which we have referred. Seats are provided for 3000 persons, and doubtless on crowded nights, nearly 500 more than that number would find places upon the benches. The private boxes (17 in number) accommodate nearly 100 persons; the dress circle about 400; the stalls about 120; the upper circle of boxes, about 500; the slips about 120; the pit, over 1000; and the gallery about 700. The audience, on the opening night, appeared to find abundance of amusement in observations on the extreme beauty and unexpected grandeur of the new theatre, and although it was nearly eight o'clock before the curtain rose, very little impatience was manifested, and at any time only by an infinitesimal minority. Miss Hayes—who left for *Sydney* on July 21—was recognised in one of the proscenium

boxes. Three cheers were called for, for Miss Hayes, and were enthusiastically given. At about five minutes to eight the acting manager's signal was heard, and the curtain rose upon the company, about forty in number, and the national anthem was sung, Mrs. Testar leading, and the audience in the boxes remaining standing during the same, as is customary amongst the assemblies of the loyal. The theatrical lion is Mr. G. V. Brooke; and Miss Catherine Hayes has been singing with immense success and profit.

Melbourne is developing an increased taste for journalism. Two weekly papers, the *Telegraph* and the *Pictorial Times*, have recently appeared. There are three monthlies, "The Monthly Magazine," "The Rural Magazine," and "The Gardeners' Chronicle." "Melbourne Punch, jun., Esq.," promises his weekly appearance, on and after the 2nd of August; and a "Medical Gazette," and a "Builder," "conducted by the originator of the London publication of the same name," were promised. A letter from Forest Creek diggings says:—"The demand for weekly papers and English periodicals is very great; the rivalry in selling them is greater still—boys of all ages, and men of all nations, are employed in their disposal, and even from Castlemaine an agent started on horseback, with parcels of *Punch*, *Lloyd's Illustrated News*, &c., armed with a brazen trumpet, through which he shrieked forth the titles of his journals in an improved penny-whistle style.

The accounts from Tasmania give shocking view of the amount and atrocity of crime in that settlement. On the 26th of June, four men were hanged in front of Hobartton Gaol. On the scaffold, one of them (Whelan) confessed the crime of which he had been convicted, viz., the murder of three gentlemen, Messrs. Green, Dunn, and Axford, for the discovery of whose remains large rewards had been offered without effect. Not only did this hardened ruffian state all the particulars as to the way in which the horrible crime was committed, but stated where he had hid the bodies; and they have since been found there in a state of decomposition. It appears to have been his practice to stop his victims on the road, to compel them by threats to go a short

distance into the bush, and then to shoot them. According to his dying avowal he had murdered two other persons after robbing them.

The advices from New South Wales speak of prosperity and social improvement. Many persons heretofore engaged in the search for gold have abandoned that object for the equally remunerative and beneficial pursuit of cultivating the soil. It is also remarked that the vast congregation of persons at the diggings has entirely changed the appearance of these localities. Ballarat, instead of being only a gold field, is become a city of some magnitude, with roomy warehouses, costly shops with plate-glass windows, taverns, churches, chapels, theatres, and assembly rooms; and last, not least, a grammar school, in connection with the church, for boys of the better class, fitting instruction being given to such of the youth as can be made available for the choir. Ballarat promises to become the capital of the diggings, and is to have its representatives in the Legislative Council. Notwithstanding the general prosperity of the Australian colonies, many emigrants who have left their native country in the hope of bettering their condition, are in a state of most deplorable destitution. They are almost wholly persons unskilled either in agriculture or the mechanical arts, and consist chiefly of clerks, shopmen, tutors, &c., of which classes many more have arrived out than can obtain employment. In numerous instances these unfortunates have been found dying in hovels unfit for human habitation; in some cases the destitute and sick father has been compelled to witness his wife or children, hitherto unused to hardship, resorting to repulsive expedients, such as collecting rags and bones, or imploring charity, in order to raise the means of keeping body and soul together. Their privations in a foreign land, where they were led to expect competence, if not affluence, are rendered the more acute and painful by the memory of home comforts unwisely and too hastily quitted. It is to be hoped that the deplorable state of these poor aliens will have the effect of deterring all persons but mechanics and field-labourers from seeking employ in these colonies, unless they are bound for the gold fields.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE various English and French Official accounts of the *Storming of the Malakhoff and the Redan* on the 8th of September, and the subsequent Fall of Sebastopol, were given in last month's *Narrative*. A great mass of details as to these events, contained in the communications of newspaper correspondents, and letters from officers and soldiers, have been received. From these we extract some of the most interesting particulars. The French, it will be remembered, began by an assault on the Malakhoff. "Our soldiers," says a correspondent of *La Presse*, "found themselves confronting traverses of earth tolerably high, running into one another, where the men could only advance by a step at a time in following a winding course under the enemy's fire. This way appeared to our soldiers too long and dangerous. With that marvellous instinct that distinguishes them, they soon found another way, which the Russians had not thought of. Instead of attacking these intricate defences, they turned them by running along the embrasures, bounding like roebucks from one battlement to the other, at the risk of falling down a frightful precipice. In this way, to the great amazement of the Russians, they reached the centre of the position, and fell on them with fixed bayonets. . . . No sooner had they been driven out of the redoubt through the gorge that leads to the huge barracks adjacent to the Malakhoff, and long supposed by us to be a fort, than they strengthened their numbers, brought up their reserves, and rushed back to the ramparts with a fury quite unusual on their part. Our soldiers drove them out headlong a second time. The Russians were not beaten yet; they made another desperate attempt; their prodigious efforts were foiled by the cool intrepidity of our soldiers. Never, say the

actors in this terrible drama where the fate of Sebastopol was being wound up—never did the Russians display more gallantry, dash, and boldness. On this occasion they did not retreat till they were crushed, leaving behind them a hill of dead and wounded in the gorge of the redoubt. . . . It was three o'clock, and General M'Mahon sent to General Pelissier, who was at the Green Mamelon, 500 metres distant from the Malakhoff, behind a parapet of earth-sacks, a letter thus worded: 'I am in the Malakhoff, and sure of maintaining myself in it.'

A full description of the assault on the Redan, the struggle to retain it, and the final repulse of the British troops is given by the correspondent of the *Times*, whose letters, during the Crimean campaign, have gained a European celebrity. A more striking picture of a scene, almost unparalleled in the annals of war, has perhaps never been painted. The length of the account renders some abridgement necessary. It was written on the night of the day of battle.

"The weather changed suddenly yesterday. This morning it became bitterly cold. A biting wind right from the north side of Sebastopol blew intolerable clouds of harsh dust into our faces. The sun was obscured; the sky was of a leaden wintry gray. Early in the morning a strong force of cavalry, under the command of Colonel Hodge, was moved up to the front and formed a chain of sentries in front of Cathcart's hill and all along our lines. Another line of sentries in the rear of them was intended to stop stragglers and idlers from Balaklava, and the object in view was probably to prevent the Russians gathering any intimation of our attack from the unusual accumulation of people on the look-out hills. At 11.30 the Highland Brigade,

under Brigadier Cameron, marched up from Kamara and took up its position in reserve at the Right Attack, and the Guards, also in reserve, were posted on the same side of the Woronzoff road. The first brigade of the Fourth Division served the trenches of the Left Attack the night before, and remained in them. The second brigade of the Fourth Division was in reserve. The Guards, who served the trenches of the Left Attack, and only marched out that morning, were turned out again after arriving at their camp. The Third Division, massed on the hill side before their camp, were also in reserve, in readiness to move down by the Left Attack in case their services were required. General Pelissier during the night collected about 30,000 men in and about the Mamelon, to form the storming columns for the Malakhoff and Little Redan, and to provide the necessary reserves. The French were reinforced by 5000 Sardinians, who marched up from the Tchernaya last night. It was arranged that the French were to attack the Malakhoff at noon, and, as soon as their attack began, that we were to assault the Redan. And at 10.30 the Second Division and the Light Division moved down to the trenches, and were placed in the advanced parallels as quietly and unostentatiously as possible. About the same hour General Simpson and staff moved down to the second parallel of the Greenhill Battery. Sir Harry Jones, too ill to move hand or foot, nevertheless insisted on being carried down to witness the assault, and was borne to the parallel on a litter, in which he remained till all was over. It was, as I have said, a bitter cold day, and a stranger would have been astonished at the aspect of the British Generals as they viewed the assault. The commander-in-chief, General Simpson, sat in the trench, with his nose and eyes just facing the cold and dust, and his cloak drawn up over his head to protect him against both. General Jones wore a red nightcap, and reclined on his litter; and Sir Richard Airey, the quartermaster-general, had a white pocket-handkerchief tied over his cap and ears, which detracted somewhat from a martial and belligerent aspect. The Duke of Newcastle was stationed at Cathcart's hill in the early part of the day, and afterwards moved off to the right to the Picket house lookout over the Woronzoff road. All the amateurs and travelling gentlemen, who rather abounded here just now, were in a state of great excitement, and dotted the plain in eccentric attire, which recalled one's old memories of Cowes, and yachting and sea-bathing—were engaged in a series of subtle manœuvres to turn the flank of unwary sentries, and to get to the front, and their success was most creditable to their enterprise and ingenuity. The Tartars, Turks, and Eupatorians were singularly perturbed for such placid people, and thronged every knoll which commanded the smallest view of the place. At 10.45 General Pelissier and his staff went up to the French Observatory on the right. The French trenches were crowded with men as close as they could pack, and we could see our men through the breaks in the clouds of dust, which were most irritating, all ready in their trenches. The cannonade languished purposely towards noon; but the Russians, catching sight of the cavalry and troops in front, began to shell Cathcart's hill and the heights, and disturbed the equanimity of some of the spectators. A few minutes before twelve o'clock the French, like a swarm of bees, issued forth from their trenches close to the doomed Malakhoff, swarmed up its face, and were through the embrasures in the twinkling of an eye. They crossed the seven metres of ground which separated them from the enemy at a few bounds—they drifted as lightly and quickly as autumn leaves before the wind, battalions after battalion, into the embrasures, and in minute or two after the head of their column issued from the ditch the tricolor was floating over the Korniloff Bastion. The musketry was very feeble at first—indeed, our allies took the Russians quite by surprise, and very few of the latter were in the Malakhoff; but they soon recovered themselves, and from twelve o'clock till past seven in the evening the French had to meet and defeat the repeated attempts of the enemy to regain the work and the Little Redan, when, weary of the fearful slaughter of his men, who lay in thousands over the exterior of the works, the Muscovite general, despairing of success, withdrew

his exhausted legions, and prepared, with admirable skill, to evacuate the place. As soon as the tricolor was observed waving over the parapet of the Malakhoff through the smoke and dust, four rockets were sent up from Chapman's attack one after another as a signal for our assault on the Redan. The covering party consisted of 100 men of the 3rd Buffs, under Captain John Lewes, who highly distinguished himself, and 100 men of the Second Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, under the command of poor Captain Hammond. The scaling-ladder party consisted of 160 of the 3rd Buffs, under Captain Maude, whose gallantry was very conspicuous throughout the affair, in addition to the 160 of the 97th, under the gallant and lamented Welsford. The part of the force of the Second Division consisted of 260 of the 3rd Buffs, 300 of the 41st (Welsh), 200 of the 62nd, and a working party of 100 men of the 41st. The rest of Windham's Brigade, consisting of the 47th and 49th, were in reserve, together with Warren's Brigade of the same division, of which the 30th and 55th were called into action, and suffered severely. Brigadier Shirley was on board ship, but as soon as he heard of the assault he resolved to join his brigade, and he accordingly came up to the camp that very morning. Colonel Unett, of the 19th Regiment, was the senior officer in Brigadier Shirley's absence, and on him would have devolved the duty of leading the storming column of the Light Division, had the latter not returned. Colonel Unett, ignorant of the brigadier's intention to leave shipboard, had to decide with Colonel Windham who should take precedence in the attack. They tossed, and Colonel Unett won. He had it in his power to say whether he would go first or follow Colonel Windham. He looked at the shilling, turned it over, and said, 'My choice is made; I'll be the first man into the Redan.' But fate willed it otherwise, and he was struck down badly wounded ere yet he reached the abatis, although he was not leading the column. Scarcely had the men left the fifth parallel when the guns on the flank of the Redan opened on them as they moved on rapidly to the salient, in which there were of course no cannon, as the nature of such a work does not permit of their being placed in that particular position. In a few seconds Brigadier Shirley was temporarily blinded by the dust and by earth knocked into his eyes by a shot. He was obliged to retire, and his place was taken by Lieutenant Colonel Bunbury, of the 23rd Regiment, who was next in rank to Colonel Unett, already struck down and carried to the rear. Brigadier Van Straubenzee received a contusion of the face, and was also forced to leave the field. Colonel Handcock fell, mortally wounded in the head by a bullet, and never spoke again. Captain Hammond fell dead. Major Welsford was killed on the spot. Captain Grove was severely wounded. Many officers and men were hit and fell; and of the commanders of parties, only acting Brigadier-General Windham, Captain Fyers, Captain Lewes, and Captain Maude got untouched into the Redan, and escaped scathless from the volleys of grape and rifle balls which swept the flanks of the work towards the salient. As they came nearer, the enemy's fire became less fatal. They crossed the abatis without difficulty; it was torn to pieces and destroyed by our shot, and the men stepped over and through it with ease. The Light Division made straight for the salient and projecting angle of the Redan, and came to the ditch, which is here about fifteen feet deep. The party detailed for the purpose placed the ladders, but they were found to be too short. However, had there been enough of them, that would not have mattered much, but some had been left behind in the hands of dead or wounded men, and others had been broken, so that if one can credit the statements made by those who were present, there were not more than six or seven ladders at the salient. The men, led by their officers, leaped into the ditch and scrambled up the other side, whence they got up the parapet almost without opposition; for the few Russians who were in front ran back and got behind their traverses and breastworks as soon as they saw our men on the top, and opened fire upon them. Lamentable as it no doubt is, and incredible almost to those who know how the British soldier generally behaves before the

enemy, the men, when they got on the parapet, were seized by some strange infatuation, and began firing, instead of following their officers, who now began to fall fast as they rushed on in front, and tried to stimulate their soldiers by their example. Notwithstanding the popular prejudice to the contrary, most men stand fire much better than closing with an enemy. The small party of the 90th, much diminished, went on gallantly towards the breastwork, but they were too weak to force it, and they had to retire and get behind the traverses, where men of different regiments had already congregated, and were keeping up a brisk fire on the Russians, whose heads were just visible above the breastwork. Simultaneously with the head of the storming party of the Light Division, Colonel Windham had got inside the Redan on their right, below the salient on the proper left face of the Redan; but in spite of all his exertions, could do little more than the gallant officers of the 90th and 97th, and of the supporting regiments. As the Light Division rushed out in the front they were swept by the guns of the Barrack Battery and by several pieces on the proper right of the Redan, loaded heavily with grape, which caused them considerable loss ere they reached the salient or apex of the work which they were to assault. The storming columns of the Second Division issuing out of the fifth parallel rushed up immediately after the Light Division, but when they came up close to the apex Brigadier Windham very judiciously brought them by a slight detour on the right flank of the Light Division, so as to come a little down on the slope of the proper left face of the Redan. The first embrasure to which they came was in flames, but moving on to the next, the men leaped into the ditch, and, with the aid of ladders and of each others' hands, scrambled up on the other side, climbed the parapet, or poured in through the embrasure which was undefended. Colonel Windham was the first, or one of the very first, men in on this side, and with him entered Daniel Mahoney, a great grenadier of the 41st, Killeavy and Cornelliis of the same regiment. As Mahoney entered with a cheer he was shot through the head by a Russian rifleman and fell dead across Col. Windham, and at the same moment Killeavy and Cornelliis were both wounded. The latter claims the reward of £5, offered by Colonel Herbert to the first man of his division who entered the Redan. Running parallel to the faces of the Redan there is, as I have described, an inner parapet intended to shield the gunners at the embrasures from the effects of any shell which might fall into the body of the work, and strike them down if this high bank were not there to protect them from the splinters. Several cuts in the rear of the embrasures permitted the men to retire in case of need inside, and very strong and high traverses ran all along the sides of the work itself to afford them additional shelter. At the base of the Redan, before the re-entering angles is a breastwork, or rather a parapet with an irregular curve, up to a man's neck, which runs in front of the body of the place. As our men entered through the embrasures, the few Russians who were between the salient and this breastwork retreated behind the latter, and got from the traverses to its protection. From it they poured in a quick fire on the parapet of the salient, which was crowded by the men of the Light Division, and on the gaps through the inner parapet of the Redan, and our men, with an infatuation which all officers deplore, but cannot always remedy on such occasions, began to return the fire of the enemy without advancing or crossing behind the traverses, loaded and fired as quickly as they could, but did but little execution, as the Russians were well covered by the breastwork. There were also groups of Russian riflemen behind the lower traverses near the base of the Redan, who kept up a galling fire on our men. As the alarm of an assault was spread the enemy came rushing up from the barracks in the rear of the Redan, and increased the force and intensity of their fire, while our soldiers dropped fast and encouraged the Russians by their immobility and the weakness of their fusillade, from which the enemy were well protected. In vain the officers, by voice and act, by example and daring, tried to urge our soldiers on. They had an impression that the Redan was

all mined, and that if they advanced they would all be blown up, but many of them acted as became the men of Alma and Inkermann, and, rushing to the front, were swept down by the enemy's fire. The officers fell on all sides, singled out for the enemy's fire by their courage. The men of the different regiments became mingled together in inextricable confusion. The 19th men did not care for the orders of the officers of the SSth, nor did the soldier of the 23rd heed the commands of an officer who did not belong to his regiment. The officers could not find their men—the men had lost sight of their own officers. All the brigadiers, save Colonel Windham, were wounded or rendered unfit for the guidance of the attack. That gallant officer did all that man could do to form his men for the attack, and to lead them against the enemy. Proceeding from traverse to traverse, he coaxed the men to come out, and succeeded several times in forming a few of them, but they melted away as fast as he laid hold of them, and either fell in their little ranks or retired to cover to keep up their fusillade. Many of them crowded to the lower parts of the inner parapet and kept up a smart fire on the enemy, but nothing would induce them to come out into the open space and charge the breastwork. This was all going on at the proper left face of the Redan, while nearly the same scene was being repeated at the salient. Every moment our men were diminishing in numbers, while the Russians came up in swarms from the town, and rushed down from the Malakhoff, which had now been occupied by the French. Thrice did Colonel Windham send officers to Sir W. Codrington, who was in the fifth parallel, begging of him to send up supports in some order of formation; but all these three officers were wounded as they passed from the ditch of the Redan to the rear, and the Colonel's own aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Swire, of the 17th, a gallant young officer, was hit dangerously on the hip as he went on his perilous errand. Supports were indeed sent up, but they came up in disorder from the fire to which they were exposed on their way, and arrived in dribs and drabs only to increase the confusion and the carnage. Finding that he could not collect any men on the left face, Colonel Windham passed through one of the cuts of the inner parapet and walked over to the right face at the distance of thirty yards from the Russian breastwork, to which he moved in a parallel line, exposed to a close fire, but, wonderful to say, without being touched. When he got behind the inner parapet at the right face he found the same state of things as that which existed at the left. The men were behind the traverses, firing away at the Russians or blazing at them from the broken parts of the front, and the soldiers who came down from the salient in front only got behind these works for cover while they loaded and fired at the enemy. The colonel got some riflemen and a few men of the 88th together, but no sooner had he brought them out than they were killed, wounded, or dispersed by a concentrated fire. The officers, with the noblest devotion, aided Colonel Windham, and became the special marks of the enemy's riflemen. The narrow neck of the salient was too close to allow of any kind of formation, and the more the men crowded into it the more they got out of order and the more they suffered from the enemy's fire. This miserable work lasted for an hour. The Russians were now in dense masses behind the breastwork, and Colonel Windham walked back again across the open space to the left to make one more attempt to retrieve the day. The men on the parapet of the salient, who were firing at the Russians, sent their shot about him, and the latter, who were pouring volley after volley on all points of the head of the work, likewise directed their muskets against him, but he passed through this cross fire in safety, and got within the inner parapet on the left, where the men were becoming thinner and thinner. A Russian officer now stepped over the breastwork, and tore down a gabion with his own hands; it was to make room for a field-piece. Colonel Windham exclaimed to several soldiers who were firing over the parapet, 'Well, as you are so fond of firing, why don't you shoot that Russian?' They fired a volley and missed him, and soon afterwards the field-piece began to play on the head of the salient with grape. Colonel Windham saw there was no time to be lost. He had sent three officers for

reinforcements, and, above all, for men in formation, and he now resolved to go to General Codrington himself. Seeing Captain Creadock, of the 90th, near him busy in encouraging his men, and exerting himself with great courage and energy to get them into order, he said, 'I must go to the general for supports. Now mind, let it be known, in case I am killed, why I went away.' He crossed the parapet and ditch, and succeeded in gaining the fifth parallel through a storm of grape and rifle bullets in safety. Sir William Codrington asked him if he thought he really could do anything with such supports as he could afford, and said he might take the Royals, who were then in the parallel. 'Let the officers come out in front—let us advance in order, and if the men keep their formation the Redan is ours,' was the colonel's reply; but he spoke too late—for at that very moment our men were seen leaping down into the ditch, or running down the parapet of the salient, and through the embrasures out of the work into the ditch, while the Russians followed them with the bayonet and with heavy musketry, and even threw stones and grapeshot at them as they lay in the ditch. The fact was that the Russians having accumulated several thousands of men behind the breastwork, and seeing our men all scattered up, and confused behind the inner parapet of the traverse, crossed the breastwork, through which several field-pieces were now playing with grape on the inner face of the Redan, and charged our broken groups with the bayonet, at the same time that the rear-ranks, getting on the breastwork, poured a heavy hail of bullets on them over the heads of the advancing column. The struggle that took place was short, desperate, and bloody. Our soldiers, taken at every disadvantage, met the enemy with the bayonet too, and isolated combats took place in which the brave fellows who stood their ground had to defend themselves against three or four adversaries at once. In this *mélee* the officers, armed only with their swords, had little chance; nor had those who carried pistols much opportunity of using them in such a rapid contest. They fell like heroes, and many a gallant soldier with them. The bodies of English and Russians inside the Redan, locked in an embrace which death could not relax, but had rather cemented all the closer, lay next day inside the Redan as evidences of the terrible animosity of the struggle. But the solid weight of the advancing mass, urged on, and fed each moment from the rear by company after company and battalion after battalion, prevailed at last against the isolated and disjointed band, who had abandoned the protection of unanimity of courage, and had lost the advantages of discipline and obedience. As though some giant rock had advanced into the sea and forced back the waters that buffeted it, so did the Russian columns press down against the spray of soldiery which fretted their edge with fire and steel, and contended in vain against their weight. The struggling band was forced back by the enemy, who moved on, crushing friend and foe beneath their solid tramp, and, bleeding, panting, and exhausted, our men lay in heaps in the ditch beneath the parapet, sheltered themselves behind stones and in bomb-craters in the slope of the work, or tried to pass back to our advanced parallel and sap, and had to run the gauntlet of a tremendous fire. Many of them lost their lives, or were seriously wounded in this attempt. The scene in the ditch was appalling, although some of the officers have assured me that they and the men here laughed at the precipitation with which many brave and gallant fellows did not hesitate from plunging headlong upon the mass of bayonets, muskets, and sprawling soldiers—the ladders were all knocked down or broken, so that it was difficult for the men to get up at the other side; and the dead, the dying, the wounded, and the sound were all lying in heaps together. The Russians came out of the embrasures, plied them with stones, grape-shot, and the bayonet, but were soon forced to retire by the fire of our batteries and riflemen, and under cover of this fire many of our men escaped to the approaches. In some instances the enemy persisted in remaining outside in order to plunder the bodies of those who were lying on the slope of the parapet, and paid the penalty of their rashness in being stretched beside their foes; but others came forth on a holier errand, and actually brought water to our wounded."

Such was the end of this tremendous conflict. Its renewal next morning, it will be remembered, was rendered unnecessary, the Russians having evacuated the Redan.

The unsuccessful attack on the central bastion by the French, after the Malakoff had been carried, was equally desperate with the British attack on the Redan. It is thus described by the correspondent of the *Daily News*:—

"The signal from the Malakoff that the French were successful was to be repeated at the Lancaster Battery to the right of the great ravine leading up from the inner harbour, and again at the Maison Blanche to inform General de Salles, who commanded the French force on the extreme left—the Second Division of the first corps, supported by the First Division—destined for the attack of the Central Bastion. In case it proved successful, it was to be immediately followed by the advance of a brigade of Piedmontese, numbering about 1,400 men, against the Flagstaff Battery. They were all mustered in the trenches from an early hour, and were distinctly perceived by the Russians, who were fully prepared for them. The day was very cold, and the great masses of dust accumulated on the roads and in every hole and corner of this monster camp were raised by a high cutting wind, and filled the air in all directions. The consequence was, that although General de Salles himself, all his officers of *état major*, those of the Piedmontese *état major*, everybody, in fact, who could produce one, had their telescopes levelled on the Maison Blanche, the signal could not be seen. Time wore on: half-past one at last came, and then, losing patience, he sent off two aides-de-camp *rentre-a-terre* to learn how matters stood. They learnt on their arrival that the signals had been duly made, but had received no reply. Rocket after rocket was again sent up, and this time were distinctly perceived and replied to, and the next minute the general drew his sword, shouted 'En avant!' and the column rushed forward *au pas de course*, some sappers bowling along in front carrying small wooden bridges to be thrown over the ditch. This was done in a second—little masses of men shot across, and mounted the parapet. 'Now comes the tug of war,' thought every one; but every one was mistaken. The parapet was greatly battered and knocked about by the shell; there were small caves in it, heights and hollows in it, of all possible dimensions, and in and on these, in all possible postures from the sublime to the ridiculous, the assailant stood, sat, or squatted. The officers shouted, waved their swords, entreated and commanded in vain; the fact is—it is a fact which in these matters it is not fair to overlook—that when, as in this case, you have run a hundred yards or more exposed to showers of grape, and arrive breathless on such a pleasant spot as on the wrong side of a parapet, behind which some thousands of fellows are waiting for you, and thirsting for your blood, it is no easy matter to get you to make up your mind to pitch yourself across, knowing as you do perfectly well that the first hundred men who go in are almost certain to be fallen upon and massacred like so many wolves. Things remained in this state for exactly four minutes; it seemed an age; and during the whole of the time the Russians were flinging hand grenades across in showers. At twenty minutes past two General de Salles raised himself above the parapet of the French trench, took off his *kepi*, and waving it over his head, shouted out 'Vive l'Empereur!' everybody around him took up the cry: the men in reserve repeated it; enthusiasm began to boil up; the soldiers on the parapet caught the infection, jumped up, yelled out the famous war-cry once more, sprang across, and disappeared in the interior of the fort, like divers taking their plunge. After this, for several minutes, the only sounds to be heard were those arising from a deadly fight, man to man, 'tooth and nail,' shouts and exhortations, drowned or interrupted ever and anon by the crash of the musketry, now dying into dropping-shots, and then in one burst rising into a passionate rattle, as if oceans of hate and rage and courage and enthusiasm found an outlet in those furious volleys. At last the sounds began to wax fainter; the Russians had been driven out and the French were advancing. The Russian reserves, how-

ever, had now come up, in two columns, and approached the French to the right and left; there was really little to fear, and the Piedmontese were forming for the assault on the Flagstaff Battery, when some one among the French in the Central Bastion—one of those unhappy individuals upon whom the god Pan so often seizes at moments when great destinies or great interests are at stake, and makes him the instrument of ruin and disorder—shouted out, ‘*Nous sommes tournés!*’ in an instant all was confusion; the whole force wheeled about, and bolted bodily, flinging themselves across the parapet, vastly quicker than on the previous occasions, and ran back for dear life towards the trenches, under showers of grape from the flanking batteries in the bastion, and from the luuette on the left. On seeing this, General de Salles became pale with rage, rushed out, and threw himself in the path of the fugitives, crying ‘*Canaille, vous allez deshonorer la France! arretez!*’ and, addressing himself to the officers, ‘*Messieurs, est ce que vous laissez filer vos soldats comme cela? En avant! en avant! Vive l’Empereur!*’ He seized hold of some of the men, whirled them to the right about, and inflicted upon them some of that compendious vituperation of which only the French language is capable. There was one little conscript—beardless, slender, hardly able to trot under his musket, evidently not long in the ranks, and fitter to be by his mother’s side than amidst the horrors of a deadly fight, who, in an evil hour for him, attracted the general’s notice by his desperate efforts to reach some place of shelter. The latter rushed towards him, tore one of his cotton epaulettes off his shoulder, and shouted in his ear—‘*Comment! vous n’êtes pas Français donc!*’ The reproach stung the poor boy to the quick; all his fiery chivalrous French blood rose in him to repel it; his face flushed up, and constantly repeating, ‘*Je ne suis pas Français!*’ ran back, mounted the top parapet, whirled his musket about his head in a fury of excitement, and at last fell into the ditch, riddled with balls. The result of General de Salles’ exertions, however, were favourable; the column was rallied again, and went forward once more; but this time there was no longer the same *élan*. They bore up for a while gallantly, under such a storm of grape as many who were there, and had seen many a bloody day, declared they never saw equalled. If they could not win, the poor fellows like our own at the Redan, knew at least how to die, and died manfully, by the hundred. At last they were all withdrawn to the trenches, and the general sent for instructions to General Pelissier as to whether he should renew the attack or not. He received a reply in the negative.”

The following particulars are related respecting British officers engaged in the attack on the Redan:—Among those who were wounded in the assault, and have since died, was Lieut.-Colonel Gough, nephew of Lord Gough, who commanded the 33rd. He received three wounds, two in the hip and thigh, and one in the arm. He was severely wounded at the battle of the Alma, and had suffered a long confinement subsequently. He had rejoined his regiment before he had fully recovered, and his health had never been re-established since. This circumstance appears to have hastened the fatal result of his injuries. On the ground which had to be traversed between the fifth parallel and the Redan, Lieut.-Colonel Unett, commanding the 19th Regiment, received a ball in the hip, which became fixed in the thigh-bone. He was being carried back to camp, and had reached the first parallel in safety, when a musket ball entered his neck and shattered his collar-bone to pieces. He has since succumbed to his wounds.—The following letter was written by Major Welsford, of the 97th Regiment, within an hour of his death. “Camp, Sept. 8.—My dear B.—This is about to be an eventful day to some of us, as we are to storm the Redan, the French the Malakoff; and, as you say, ‘would it were bedtime, Hal, and all were well.’ But I trust in Providence all will be well, and that I shall be instrumental in making her Majesty present of the Redan, as I am to lead the Light Division storming party; and, if God spare me, to be the first in and first up. This is to be done by escalade. I am glad her Majesty has seen my photographs, and I now send you some more like them. No time for writing more, as

the drums are going. Remember me to Lady —. They asked me if I liked the idea of active service; I will tell them more about it when this day is over. God bless you, my dear B.—Believe me most truly yours, A. F. WELSFORD.”—Captain Bright, of the 19th, who was doing the duty of paymaster, in the absence of Captain Glendinning from illness, and who might have remained in camp if he had chosen, went at the head of his company into action, was in the thick of it, but came out unhurt. Captain Chippendall stood for a long time, amidst a shower of musket-balls and grape, on the first parapet of the Redan, waving his forage-cap on the top of his sword to encourage the men to come on. Nothing could exceed his gallantry. It is a miracle that he escaped. At last he was pushed from the parapet into the ditch, and fell among the heaps of dead and dying. . . . Lieutenant Molesworth, though a youngster—quite a lad, just joined—had the coolness to light a cigar while up at the Redan, in the midst of the fire. A shell burst over his head; one fragment knocked the cigar out of his mouth, another struck him on the back of the head and sent him senseless into the ditch. It was not for many hours after he was carried up to camp that he recovered from the first effects of the blow from the piece of shell: it must have glanced off, for the wound it made was very slight. . . . One of the last remaining on the parapet of the Redan was a gallant young boy, Lieutenant Massy, who had only lately joined the regiment. Just at the last the poor youth received a ball which broke his thigh-bone, and he fell down towards the ditch. In the hurry he was not noticed by the men who were retiring, and he was left among the heaps of dead unable to move till an early hour the next morning. Some men of the 93d Highlanders then noticed him, and he was carried up to camp, where he was given up for killed. Some most interesting particulars of this noble boy’s conduct, are related by a brother officer. “I must give you,” he says, “the history, in a few words, of a few hours in the life of a hero, and, depend upon it, of a future great man if he lives. He is in the next regiment to us, and I have the details from a wounded sergeant of ours who lay next him during the day and night of the 8th. I allude to young Dunham Massy, of the 19th—I believe the youngest officer of the army. He is now known as ‘Redan Massy,’ for there are three of the same name in the regiment. This noble boy, in the absence of his cousin, led the Grenadier Company, and was about the first man of the corps to jump into the ditch of the Redan, waving his sword, and calling on his men, who nobly stood by him, till left for nearly two hours without support, and seized by a fear of being blown up, they retired. Young Massy, borne along, endeavoured to disengage from the crowd, and stood almost alone, facing round frequently to the batteries, with head erect, and with a calm, proud, disdainful eye. Hundreds of shot were aimed at him, and at last, when leading and climbing the ditch, he was struck and his thigh broken. Being the last, he was of course left there. Now, listen to this. The wounded around were groaning, and some even loudly crying out. A voice called out, faintly at first, loudly afterwards, ‘Are you Queen Victoria’s soldiers?’ Some voices answered, ‘I am! I am!’ ‘Then,’ said the gallant boy, ‘let us not shame ourselves; let us show those Russians that we can bear pain, as well as fight, like men.’ There was a silence as of death, and more than once he had it renewed by similar appeals. The unquailing spirit of that beardless boy ruled all around him. As evening came on, the Russians crept out of the Redan and plundered some of the wounded, at the same time showing kindness, and in some cases giving water. Men, with bayonets fixed, frequently came over the body of young Massy. One fellow took away his haversack. Sometimes he feigned death. At other times the pain of his wound would not permit him. A Russian officer, with a drawn sword, came to him and endeavoured to disengage the sword, which the young hero still grasped. Seeing that resistance was in vain, he gave it up. The Russian smiled gently and compassionately on him, fascinated, probably, by his youth, and by the bold unfaltering glance which met his. When the works of the Redan were blown up in the night by the retreat-

ing Russians the poor boy had his right leg fearfully crushed by a falling stone. He was found in the morning by some Highlanders, and brought to his regiment almost dead from loss of blood. Great was the joy of all at seeing him, as he was about to be returned as 'killed' or 'missing.' 'Dangerously wounded' was substituted, but he is now doing well.'

When morning dawned on Sunday the 9th, the retreat of the Russians was discovered. "The surprise," says the *Times* correspondent, "throughout the camp on Sunday morning was beyond description when the news spread that Sebastopol was on fire, and that the enemy were retreating. The tremendous explosions, which shook the very ground like so many earthquakes, failed to disturb many of our wearied soldiers. When I rose before daybreak, and got up to Catheart's-hill, there were not many officers standing on that favourite spot; and the sleepers who had lain down to rest, doubtful of the complete success of the French, and certain of our own failure, little dreamt that Sebastopol was ours. All was ready for a renewed assault upon the Redan, but the Russians having kept up a brisk fire from the rifle pits and embrasures to the last moment, and having adopted the same plan along their lines, so as to blind our eyes and engage our attention, abandoned it, as is supposed, about twelve o'clock, and the silence having attracted the attention of our men, some volunteers crept up and looked through an embrasure, and found the place deserted by all, save the dead and dying. Soon afterwards, wandering fires gleamed through the streets and outskirts of the town—point after point became alight—the flames shone out of the windows of the houses—rows of mansions caught and burned up, and before daybreak, the town of Sebastopol—that fine and stately mistress of the Euxine, on which we had so often turned a longing eye,—was on fire from the sea to the Dockyard Creek. Fort Alexander was blown up with a stupendous crash, that made the very earth reel, early in the night. At sunrise four large explosions on the left followed in quick succession, and announced the destruction of the Quarantine Fort and of the magazines of the batteries of the Central Bastion and Flagstaff' Fort. In a moment afterwards the proper left of the Redan was the scene of a very heavy explosion, which must have destroyed a number of wounded men on both sides. Fortunately the soldiers who had entered it early in the night were withdrawn. The Flagstaff and Garden Batteries blew up, one after another, at 4.45. At 5.30 there were two of the largest and grandest explosions on the left that ever shook the earth—most probably from Fort Alexander and the Grand Magazine. The rush of black smoke, gray and white vapour, masses of stone, beams of timber, and masonry into the air was appalling, and then followed the roar of a great bombardment; it was a magazine of shells blown up into the air, and exploding like some gigantic pyrotechnic display in the sky—innumerable flashes of fire twinkling high up in the column of dark smoke over the town, and then changing as rapidly into as many balls of white smoke like little clouds. All this time the Russians were marching with sullen tramp across the bridge, and boats were busy carrying off *matériel* from the town, or bearing men to the south side, to complete the work of destruction and renew the fires of hidden mines, or light up untouched houses. Of the fleet all that remained visible were the eight steamers and the masts of the sunken line-of-battle ships. As soon as it was dawn the French began to steal from their trenches into the burning town, undismayed by the flames, by the terrors of these explosions, by the fire of a lurking enemy, or by the fire of their own guns, which kept on slowly discharging cannon, shot, and grape into the suburbs at regular intervals, possibly with the very object of deterring stragglers from risking their lives. But red breeches and blue breeches, Képi and Zouave fez, could soon be distinguished amid the flames, moving from house to house. Before five o'clock there were numbers of men coming back with plunder, such as it was, and Russian relics were offered for sale in camp before the Russian battalions had marched out of the city. The sailors, too, were not behindhand in looking for 'boot,' and Jack could be seen staggering under chairs, tables, and lumbering old pictures, through every street, and

making his way back to the trenches with vast accumulations of worthlessness. Several men lost their lives by explosions on this and the following day."

The same writer describes his visit to the ruined city:—"Descending from the Malakhoff we come upon a suburb of ruined houses open to the sea: it is filled with dead. The Russians have crept away into holes and corners in every house, to die like poisoned rats; artillery horses with their entrails torn open by shot, are stretched all over the space at the back of the Malakhoff, marking the place where the Russians moved up their last column to retake it under the cover of a heavy field-battery. Every house, the church, some public buildings, sentry boxes, all alike are broken and riddled by cannon and mortar. Turning to the left we proceed by a very tall snow-white wall of great length to the dockyard gateway. This wall is pierced and broken through and through with cannon. Inside are the docks, which naval men say are unequalled in the world. A steamer is blazing merrily in one of them. Gates and store sides are splintered and pierced by shot. There are the stately dockyard buildings on the right, which used to look so clean and white and spruce. Parts of them are knocked to atoms, and hang together in such shreds and patches that it is only wonderful they cohere. The soft white stones of which they and the walls are made are readily knocked to pieces by a cannon shot. Fort Paul is untouched. There it stands, as if frowning defiance at its impending fate, right before us, and warning voices bid all people to retire, and even the most benevolent retreat from the hospital, which is in one of these buildings, where they are tending the miserable wounded. I visited it the next day. Of all the pictures of the horrors of war which have ever been presented to the world, the hospital of Sebastopol presents the most horrible, heartrending, and revolting. It cannot be described, and the imagination of a Fuseli could not conceive anything at all like unto it. How the poor human body can be mutilated and yet hold its soul within, when every limb is shattered, and every vein and artery is pouring out the life-stream, one might study here at every step, and at the same time wonder how little will kill! The building used as an hospital is one of the noble piles inside the dockyard wall, and is situate in the centre of the row at right angles to the line of the Redan. The whole row was peculiarly exposed to the action of shot and shell bounding over the Redan, and to the missiles directed at the Barrack Battery, and it bears in sides, roofs, windows, and doors, frequent and destructive proofs of the severity of the cannonade. Entering one of these doors I beheld such a sight as few men, thank God, have ever witnessed! In a low long room, supported by square pillars, arched at the top, and dimly lighted through shattered and unglazed window frames, lay the wounded Russians, who had been abandoned to our mercies by their general. The wounded did I say? No, but the dead, the rotten and festering corpses of the soldiers, who were left to die in their extreme agony, unattended, uncared for, packed as close as they could be stowed, some on the floor, others on wretched trestles and bedsteads, or pallets of straw, sopped and saturated with blood, which oozed and trickled through upon the floor, mingled with the droppings of corruption. With the roar of exploding fortresses in their ears, with shells and shot forcing through the roof and sides of the rooms in which they lay, with the crackling and hissing of fire around them, these poor fellows, who had served their loving friend and master the czar but too well, were consigned to their terrible fate. Many might have been saved with ordinary care. In the midst of one of these 'chambers of horrors,'—for there were many of them—were found some dead and some living English soldiers, and among them poor Captain Vaughan of the 90th, who has since succumbed to his wounds. The Great Redan was next visited. Such a scene of wreck and ruin! All the houses behind it a mass of broken stones—a clock turret, with a shot right through the clock—a pagoda in ruins—another clock tower with all the clock destroyed save the dial, with the words "Barwise, London," thereon—cook-houses, where human blood had running among the utensils; in one place a shell had lodged in the boiler and blown it and

its contents, and probably its attendants, to pieces. Everywhere wreck and destruction. This evidently was a *beau quartier* once. The oldest inhabitant could not recognise it now. Climbing up to the Redan, which was fearfully cumbered with the dead, we witnessed the scene of the desperate attack and defence, which cost both sides so much blood. The ditch outside made one sick—it was piled up with English dead, some of them scorched and blackened by the explosion, and others lacerated beyond recognition. The quantity of broken gabions and gun-carriages here was extraordinary, the ground was covered with them. The bomb proofs were the same as in the Malakoff, and in one of them a music book was found, with a woman's name in it, and a canary bird and vase of flowers were outside the entrance."

On the day after the victory general orders, congratulating the army, were issued by the commanders. General Simpson's address was as follows:—"The Commander of the Forces congratulates the army on the result of the attack of yesterday. The brilliant assault and occupation of the Malakoff by our gallant allies obliged the enemy to abandon the works they have so long held with such bravery and determination. The Commander of the Forces returns his thanks to the General Officers and Officers and men of the Second and Light Divisions, who advanced and attacked with such gallantry the works of the Redan. He regrets, from the formidable nature of the flanking defences, that their devotion did not meet with that immediate success which it so well merited. He condoles and deeply sympathises with the many brave officers, non-commissioned officers, and men who are now suffering from the wounds they received in the course of their noble exertions of yesterday. He deeply deplores the death of the many gallant officers and men who have fallen in the final struggle of this long and memorable siege. Their loss will be severely felt, and their names long remembered in this army and by the British nation. General Simpson avails himself of this opportunity to congratulate and convey his warmest thanks to the general officers, officers and soldiers of the several divisions, to the Royal Engineers and Artillery, for their cheerful endurance of almost unparalleled hardships and sufferings, and for the unflinching courage and determination which on so many trying occasions they have evinced. It is with equal satisfaction that the Commander of the Forces thanks the officers and men of the Naval Brigade for the long and uniform course of valuable service rendered by them from the commencement of the siege."

Marshal Pelissier's general order was in these terms:—"Soldiers!—Sebastopol has fallen! The taking of the Malakoff decided its fate. With his own hands the enemy has blown up his formidable defences, set fire to the town, the storehouses, and military establishments, and sunk the rest of his vessels in the port. The boulevard of Russian power in the Black Sea exists no longer. You owe these results, not alone to your brilliant courage, but to your indomitable energy and perseverance during a long siege of eleven months' duration. Never before did land or marine artillery, engineers, or infantry, have to overcome such obstacles as in this siege; and never did the three services display more valour, more science, or more resolution. The taking of Sebastopol will be your eternal honour. This immense success, while it augments the importance of our position in the Crimea, makes the maintenance of it less onerous. It will now be permissible to send home to their hearths and families such of you as having served their full time have yet remained with us from necessity. I thank those soldiers in the emperor's name for the devotedness of which they have never ceased to give proof, and I will take care that they shall very soon return to their native land. Soldiers! the 8th of September, the day on which the English, Piedmontese, and French flags were unfurled together, will ever be a memorable day. You have invested your eagles with a new and imperishable glory. Soldiers! you have well deserved of France and the Emperor."

From the numerous letters from officers and soldiers we extract the two following as being among the most interesting. The first is from Lieutenant Harkness, of the 55th Regiment:—

"About half-past twelve, a white flag, hoisted on the Mamelon, gave notice to the English to attack the Great Redan. Away went the stormers of the Light Division, closely followed by those of the Second. The enemy, of course, were well prepared for us, and had been firing grape at our trench from the beginning of the French attack. My company was the third from the front. When it came to my turn, I jumped up and over the parapet, and calling to my men to follow me close and keep together, we rushed across the open ground. The distance from our trench to the Redan ditch, as since ascertained, is over 200 paces. The heavy fire of grape and musketry from the flanking batteries swept this space from both sides in a fearful storm, and our men fell rapidly from it. I reached the ditch unhurt, and slid down into it. It was about ten feet deep, and twenty or thirty feet across. The men here got mixed, all regiments together. We crowded up the scaling-ladders, which was very difficult to do, as many wounded were trying to come down by them. Once on the top slope, it was possible to stand without the ladders. All this time, a fierce hand-to-hand fight was going on within. The parapet was very high inside, which made it extremely difficult for the men to get down, so that no sufficient body could be formed at once for a charge. The Russians had brought up a large force, which occupied the interior defences and traverses, and kept up a murderous fire, which shot down our poor fellows as fast as they could get in. Those on the parapet kept up the heaviest possible fire on the Russians, but suffered terribly from the concentrated aim directed upon them in return. Colonel Windham was most conspicuous, giving directions everywhere in the midst of the fire. Of ours, J. Hume, Roxby, Johnson, and myself, were on the parapet near together. We held our position for nearly two hours, unable to advance for the crushing fire of the enemy, who not only occupied an extended and flanking position, but actually outnumbered us. Still we were unwilling to give up what we had gained. At length the order to retire was given; and now came the most dreadful part of the business, for a retreat is always worse than an advance. Every one was in such a hurry to get down the ladders, and we were so closely packed together, that the whole mass of men on the steep parapet overbalanced, and they fell together into the ditch head foremost. I shall never forget that horrible moment: several hundred men fell headlong together, all with fixed bayonets and drawn swords; numbers must have been run through by falling on the bayonets, and had their limbs broken by the weight falling on them. It is miraculous to me how I escaped so well: I was at the top of the ladder when I fell with the rest, so that I was not so much underneath the others; I turned aside several bayonets with my hands, which nearly ran into me. My sword was wrenched out of my hand, and I lost it. It was every one for himself at that moment. As we scrambled up the counterscarp, the Russians, who had charged back into the Redan on the signs of our retiring, mounted the parapet, and threw at us in the ditch stones, grape-shot, muskets with fixed bayonets, live shell, and actually hatchets and axes. We returned to our trenches through the fire of grape and musketry, which was now, if anything, heavier than before, and the ground was thickly strewed with our killed and wounded."

The other is from a private of the 88th:—"My dearest Father—Through the mercy of God I have been one of the few that returned safe after the dreadful carnage of yesterday. We marched down yesterday about seven o'clock in the morning; the French were to storm the Malakoff and the Light Division the Redan. I think it was about eleven o'clock when the French attacked in beautiful style. They advanced in thousands, the tricolor waving before them: almost without a shot the Russians fled, and the flag of France floated proudly over the battlements of the Malakoff. Our fellows then advanced, the 97th, I think; and two others, the 19th and ours, were the supports. We saw our fellows advance beautifully up to the Redan, and we almost thought we would have nothing to do; but while we saw them still struggling we got the order to advance. We doubled up through the trenches until we got to the advanced one, right opposite to the Redan. We

leaped the parapet there, and we had a clear run of about 200 yards from that to where the fellows were climbing up the sides of the Redan. If I were to live for a thousand years I shall never forget that run with fixed bayonets. We were decimated with grape and canister before we were half way across. I don't know how I escaped. Then when we got up there was a deep ditch dug all round the Redan. We crept down the ladders at one side and up at the other, and here's where the grand mistake was made. The first regiment that got up, instead of jumping over the gabions and running in through the embrasures, stopped outside, so that when we got up the ladders we were all mixed together, no one to lead us. When I looked round there were only two or three of my own corps near me. When the Russians fled from the Malakhoff they ran into the Redan, and there they kept up a most frightful fire upon us. I never expected to come down off the parapet alive. The men were falling round me like the leaves in autumn; and though they wouldn't advance they wouldn't retire, so that the carnage was dreadful. One officer of the Rifles rushed up the parapet in through an embrasure. There were about six of us followed him. We had scarcely advanced into the mouth of it when the Rifle officer was shot. He tried to get back, but he fell dead down the parapet; three more of them were knocked down also. I cannot say whether they were killed or not. I got a box of stones myself, and fell down stunned in the embrasure. I was pulled out by two of our own grenadiers. I came to shortly, got a rifle that was lying beside me, and commenced to fire away. I think by this time we had been nearly two or three hours exposed in this dreadful manner, when the Russians came in thousands, and rolled immense stones upon us through the embrasures. A battery in rear opened on us; they threw hand grenades at us, and the slaughter was terrific. A panic seized the men; the word was given to retire, and many, very many, were killed by jumping down into the ditch on the top of their own bayonets. It may look like boasting, but I am sure you will give me credit for not telling you a lie in a case like this. After the rush became general, one officer of the 77th and I stood almost alone on the ground which we had held so long and paid for so dearly. He was crying out 'Shame, shame!' and I had my forage-cap waving on the top of my bayonet, but we might as well have tried to stop the falls of Niagara. He turned round and asked me my name. I told him. He said he would recommend me to my colonel. Poor fellow, he had scarcely spoken when a shower of rifle-bullets fled past us, and he fell down into the ditch. 'Tis near my time to hook it,' cried I to myself, and once again I crossed that field unhurt, though men were falling all round in sections. The Highlanders were sent to relieve us during the night. The Russians evacuated the Redan, and there were continual explosions during the night, but we are now in full possession of the south side of Sebastopol. Whether they will show as good a fight on the north side I cannot say. No matter what the papers say, the men did their duty. They cannot do impossibilities, sending hundreds instead of thousands to attack a place like the Redan. I can fancy the state you must all be in, and how eagerly you looked over the long, long list of killed and wounded. I hope my name didn't get down in mistake. It was melancholy to see our regiment on parade this morning — nearly all killed or wounded."

Prince Gortschakoff's account of the operations which immediately preceded the evacuation of Sebastopol, is given in the *Lavalde Russc* of the 2nd instant. It admits that the loss of the Russian army during the defence against the final attack of the allies was enormous. Prince Gortschakoff says: "On the 17th of August the enemy opened from the side of the Karabelnaiia a very heavy and murderous cannonade, which lasted twenty days. Our loss during this period was, on the first day, 1500 men; on the days following, 1000; and from the 22nd of August till the 5th of September from 500 to 600 men every twenty-four hours. On the 5th of September the enemy continued the bombardment with redoubled force, and the cannonade was inconceivably destructive, to such a degree that our fortifications were shaken by it along the

whole line of defence. This infernal fire, principally directed against the embrasures, proved that the enemy was endeavouring to dismount our guns, to demolish our ramparts, and to prepare for taking the city by storm. It was no longer possible to repair the damage done to our works, and our efforts were limited to covering the powder magazines and the blindages with earth. The parapets crumbled down and filled up the ravines; it was necessary to continue clearing the embrasures, and the number of artillerymen killed was so great, that it was with difficulty we could bring up others to take their place. Our loss at this period of the siege was extraordinary; from the 5th to the 8th of September there were placed *hors de combat*, superior officers 4, subalterns 47, and 3917 soldiers, without reckoning the artillerymen who perished at their guns." After giving a description of the attack and capture of the Malakhoff, the report adds: "The general loss of the garrison on the 8th of September was four superior officers, 55 subalterns, and 2625 men, killed; wounded, 20 superior officers, 206 subalterns, 5826 men; contused, nine superior officers, 33 subalterns, 1138 men; missing, 24 officers and 1739 men." Lieutenant-Generals Khrouloff and De Martinau and the General-Major Lyssenko were wounded on the 8th, the two latter severely. Generals-Major De Bussau (1st brigade, 8th division), and Youferoff (1st brigade, 9th division), Colonels Mzenkoff and Arschenosky, and Captain *de frigate* De Kotzuev were killed. General-Major Zovroff (2nd brigade, 5th division), Lieutenant-Colonels Nyczek and Alenuikoff, Colonel De Freund, and Captains Voieckoff (*aside-de-camp* to the Emperor) and Baron de Meyendorff were wounded. Amongst the contused were General-Major Nossoff (2nd brigade, 9th division), and Colonel Zvrcff.

Since the fall of Sebastopol, the hostile armies in its vicinity have been employed in strategic movements, but no collision of much importance has taken place. A brilliant cavalry action took place on the 29th of September in the neighbourhood of Eupatoria. The Russians, under General Korff, were defeated by the French under General D'Allonne. The Russians lost 50 killed, 105 prisoners, 6 guns, 12 caissons, and 250 horses: the French lost 6 men killed, and 27 wounded. The French cavalry engaged in this action, together with a body of infantry and artillery, had sailed from Kamiesch, and landed at Eupatoria on the 22nd and 23rd of September. On the 22nd, it appears, the garrison of that place had marched inland, on the north as far as Orta Mamai, and on the east as far as Sak. They drove the hostile outposts before them; and having satisfied themselves as to the position of the enemy, they returned to Eupatoria. While these movements were going on in that quarter, the French made a reconnaissance in the Valley of Bairdar; penetrating to the northward of Biukusta, and coming in contact with the outposts of the Russian left wing, which it seems extended in that direction, and afterwards retiring. At Sebastopol, the French had, as early as the 21st, erected mortar-batteries on the shore of the great harbour, and had begun to ply the forts on the North side with shells, while the Russians replied by firing upon the town, but without effect on either side. The Russians have been actively employed in strengthening their position on the North side of the harbour by means of earthworks and other defences. The positions of the hostile armies in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol, at the end of September, are thus described by the correspondent of the *Times*, and have not since been materially altered. "The allied armies form now on this side one long line, which runs nearly straight from west to east, beginning at the harbour of Sebastopol, and following the course of the Tehernaya to Alsu, then going over to the plateau to the south of Ozembash, and crowning the heights which enclose the valley of Bairdar to the north, up to the point where the road leads from Bazu over the Slurinkala Mountain to the Upper Belbek. The French, who occupy this position to our extreme right, are thus in possession of the heights which lead out of the valley of Bairdar to the rear of the Russians. They hold the only two roads, one to the right, which goes to Markoul and Kohuluz, and the other to the left, which runs by Ozembash into the Tchouliou valley, and from thence to the defiles of

Ait-sdar and Mangup Kaleh. The Russians are still down at Markoul, which is situate in the gorge formed by one of the feeders of the Belbek. They are, however, evidently only a strong grande garde, a few battalions, with the usual accompaniment of Cossacks. Towards Ozembash the Russian outposts hold the plateau on the right bank of the little stream of Upu, overlooking the head of the Tchonlou valley. The outposts on both sides are so close to each other that shots are continually exchanged between them. The features of the country are particularly fit for such encounters; the heights being covered with brushwood, and the little ravines on all sides facilitating the approach of both parties. Both the roads which lead up from the valley of Bairdar to the North are only country roads, and, of course, nearly impassable in winter or after rain. Having taken up this offensive position, the French, with their usual foresight, have begun to make them both practicable for the march of an army. . . . If you look at the map, you will easily see that all the abrupt cliffs have more or less a southerly and the slopes a northerly direction. This is principally the case as regards the heart of the Russian position between Baktshiserai and the north plateau. It is a succession of steep plateaux divided by gorges, through which the Tchernaya, the Belbek, and the Kitcha, with all their feeders find their way to the sea. With the exception of the road leading over Akhtiar or the Mackenzie heights, all the others follow the river courses. Most of the plateaux are too steep to be scaled by an army; so the defiles must be forced; and this seems the line the Russians have chosen all along for their defence." Since that time the principal movement has been the despatch of Sir Colin Campbell to Eupatoria with a considerable force of infantry and artillery.

The allies have achieved some important successes. The city of Kars, in Asiatic Turkey, so long beleaguered by the Russians, has been effectually relieved by the bravery of its Turkish garrison. On the 29th of September, the Russians attempted a general attack on Kars. The battle lasted seven hours with extreme desperation. The enemy at length was repulsed, and his retreat became a complete rout. The Turks followed the Russians beyond the earthworks of Kars, and so completely broke them, that they were unable to rally. In addition to the dead and wounded carried away during the action, the Russians left 4000 dead, 100 prisoners, and a gun. The Turks lost between 700 and 800, among whom were many superior officers. At the time of the latest account the Russians were preparing to retreat. The defence of Kars has been mainly sustained by General Williams, and the British officers under him. "His aid-de-camp," says the *Daily News*, "is Captain Teesdale. He has also been most ably supported by Colonel Lake, of the Madras Engineers, and Captain Thompson, of the 63rd Bengal Native Infantry. All three are young men. Captain Thompson was severely wounded in the arm in the Burmese war, and returned home upon sick leave. But his eagerness to serve his country induced him to volunteer for the East before his wound was entirely cured. He has gone through the arduous defence of Kars with his arm in a sling. This is the true metal of which British soldiers are made. The privations suffered by the garrison of Kars have been great; our gallant countrymen learned to regard horse-flesh and cat's-flesh as 'dainty fare.' They speak in the highest terms of the qualities of the Turkish soldier when rightly officered. The Muchir and General Williams are on the best terms. As for the Pashas, they have the good sense to keep quiet in their tents, smoking, and declaring that their trust is in God and the English officers."

The following particulars of this brilliant affair are given by an English officer who was engaged in it:—"Last night the Russians attacked us in force, and (between you and me and the post) very nearly took Kars. The fight was a most bloody one, and lasted seven hours and a half, without one second's intermission. The Russians left upwards of 2,000 men dead on the field; and their loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners must have exceeded 6,000 men. What do you think of us Kars chaps after that? I was not actively

engaged, as they knew better than to attack my almost impregnable battery a second time; but I did great service with my heavy guns, and twice drove them out of battery they had taken, and turned upon us. It was a nasty sight—the field—afterwards. It was completely covered with dead bodies, mostly Russians, as our men did not lose more than five or six hundred altogether. The defence was commanded by dear old General Kmeti; and when our general thanked him in the name of Queen Victoria, for his gallant repulse of the enemy, I thought the brave old boy would have burst his heart open—he was so proud. The Turks fought—not like lions, but like fiends. I never saw such desperate recklessness of life. You can form some idea of what a desperate business it was, when I tell you that the Russians had their whole force concentrated upon General Kmeti's division, which, with the reinforcements he afterwards received, did not amount to 8,000 men. The reports have just come in, and there are more than 3,000 killed on the side of the enemy."

The allied fleets in the *Black Sea*, after remaining for a short time before Odessa without any hostile operation, sailed from that place on the 15th inst., and anchored off Kinburn, a Russian fortress situated on the southern shore of the estuary of the Dnieper, opposite to Oczakoff. "A flotilla of gunboats," says Admiral Lyons' despatch, "forced the entrance into the Dnieper, and the allied troops landed on the Spit to the southward of the forts; thus, by their simultaneous operation, the retreat of the garrison and the arrival of reinforcements were effectually cut off, so that the forts, being bombarded to-day by the mortar-vessels, gun-vessels, or French floating batteries, and being closely cannonaded by the steam line-of-battle ships and frigates, having only two feet of water under their keels, were soon obliged to surrender. The casualties in the fleet were very few, but the enemy had 45 killed and 130 wounded. A steam squadron, under the orders of Rear-Admirals Stewart and Pellion, lie at anchor in the Dnieper and command the entrance to Nicolaieff and Kherson. The forts were occupied by the allied troops. The prisoners will be sent to Constantinople immediately." Another despatch states the number of prisoners to be 1500; and the number of guns taken is said to be 174. In consequence of this occurrence, the Russians, dreading an attack upon Oczakoff, destroyed the fortifications of that place. A telegraphic despatch from Admiral Lyons, dated the 18th inst., says: "This morning the enemy blew up his fortifications on Oczakoff point, mounting twenty-three guns, which were assailable by our mortar vessels."

A successful operation has taken place against a fort and some buildings at Taman and Fanagoria, on the island of Taman, opposite Yenikale. Three companies of the 71st Regiment, and six companies of French infantry, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Ready, were landed on the 24th September at Fanagoria, covered by the fire of four English and nine French gun-boats. The enemy instantly abandoned the place; which was occupied by the troops, and held during the week. The object of the expedition was to dismantle the place, and appropriate the wood and fuel to the use of the garrison of Yenikale. During the operations on the 24th, the Cossacks, 600 strong, occupied a hill-side about two miles distant; whence they were dislodged by the admirable practice of the gun-boats. One English sailor was slightly wounded. Fanagoria was a fort protecting the town of Taman. At the former, were found sixty-six pieces of cannon and four mortars, all rendered unserviceable; and at Taman eleven 24-pounders buried in the sand. This successful foray deprives the enemy of the basis of operations he might have selected for a winter campaign against Yenikale. Taman could receive and shelter several thousand soldiers; and at Fanagoria vast edifices might serve as hospitals or barracks. All have now been destroyed."

An affair of cavalry has taken place near Kertch, in which the 10th Hussars sustained some loss. The details are furnished by General Simpson. Colonel

d'Osmon, the French commandant, having learnt that the Cossacks were collecting all the arabs in the neighbourhood, invited the English cavalry to assist in preventing them. This request was readily agreed to; and two troops of the 10th Hussars, under Captain Clarke and Captain Fitzclarence, were ordered by Colonel Ready for the service. "The Cossacks were supposed," General Simpson writes, "to have assembled their arabs at two villages, named Koss-Seraï Min and Seit Ali, equidistant from Kertch about fifteen miles, and from one another six and a half. Captain Fitzclarence's troop was ordered to the first village, and Captain Clarke's to the latter. At each of these villages they were to join a troop of the Chasseurs d'Afrique, who had preceded them. On arriving at Koss-Seraï Min, Captain Fitzclarence found both troops of the French Dragoons, and immediately sent off an order to Captain Clarke to join him that night. The letter was unfortunately not delivered until the following morning. In complying with this order, Captain Clarke, whose troop consisted only of 34 men, fell in with a body of about 50 Cossacks, which he immediately charged and pursued; but as they were soon reinforced by upwards of 300, he was forced to retire upon the village, with the loss of his sergeant-major, farrier, and 13 men taken prisoners. Captain Fitzclarence's troop, with the Chasseurs, the whole under the command of the officer commanding the French troops, having seen a large body of the enemy, skirmished with them at some distance, and moved in the direction of the village of Seraï-Min; where, after having joined Captain Clarke's troop, the whole force commenced their march upon Kertch. At about the distance of half a mile from the village, they were attacked by a large body of Cossacks; who were, however, beaten back by repeated charges. The loss of the 10th Hussars consisted of—2 privates, supposed to have been killed; 1 wounded; 1 troop sergeant-major, 1 farrier, 13 men, 15 horses missing. From information that has since been received, the Cossacks were supported, within a quarter of an hour's march, by eight squadrons of Hussars and eight guns. Colonel Ready informs me that nothing could exceed the coolness and courage of the troops in the presence of such overwhelming numbers of the enemy, who were only kept at bay by their steady movements."

The intelligence from the *Baltic Fleet* is destitute of interest. It is said that Sweaborg is now the scene of great activity, for the damage received by the late bombardment is being everywhere repaired, and new works are being constructed in those parts which experience has proved were most weakly defended. It is generally expected that next year the Baltic will be the principal scene of operations on the part of the Allies, and everywhere steps are being taken to give them a warm reception.

According to the latest accounts, the troops continue remarkably healthy. Their duties are comparatively light. Excepting the guards for the divisional staff establishments, the usual regimental guards, and those in the part of Sebastopol occupied by the British, they are chiefly employed on fatigue duties; such as making the military roads, collecting stones from the batteries, building walls and enclosures for the commissariat stores, or stabling for the animals belonging to the Land Transport Corps, draining the camps, repairing the water-tanks, collecting gabions from the trenches or enemy's works—these being the only wood issued at present for fuel—or other employments of a like nature. There are, consequently, few night duties, and this is, doubtless, one circumstance which is greatly conducive to the present sanitary condition of the men. The younger soldiers are being instructed in drill, and many of the regimental parade grounds present the appearance rather of what might be expected to be seen at an encampment in England, than under the walls of Sebastopol.

Miss Nightingale had arrived from Scutari, with all the nuns, or Sisters of Mercy, from Kululée Hospital, on the Bosphorus. She was at the Sanatorium on the heights.

A tabular statement, prepared from official reports, has been published, showing the number of *Killed, Wounded, and Missing in each Regiment of the British Army* from the date of the first landing in the Crimea till the capture of Sebastopol, Sept. 8, 1855. From this it appears that during the above period (with the exception of the interval between the battle of the Alma and the 13th of October, 1854, during which no return was made) the casualties were as follows. Killed: Officers, 195; sergeants, 153; drummers, 20; privates, 2,104—total killed, 2,472. Wounded: Officers, 577; sergeants, 645; drummers, 71; privates, 10,084—total wounded, 11,377. Missing: Officers, 13; sergeants, 23; drummers, 2; privates, 466—total missing, 504. Grand total, 14,553. The following is a summary of the casualties in the Black Sea Fleet, the Naval Brigade, and the Marines, from the commencement of the war to the capture of Sebastopol, namely,—17 officers, 18 petty officers, and 128 men killed; 50 officers, 58 petty officers, and 620 men wounded, and 1 man missing.

The latest intelligence from the Crimea is from a Russian source. A despatch received at St. Petersburg by electric telegraph states that, on the 22nd, about 40,000 of the allied forces advanced from Eupatoria to Tula, a place half-way between Eupatoria and Simferopol. The next day they reached the heights at Schagadianian, but retreated beyond Andatotschi on perceiving the Russian Lancers on their left flank.

The German journals publish various letters from St. Petersburg, all making mention of immense preparations on the part of the Russian government for the continuation of the war. They even state that it will not be long before the Emperor puts himself at the head of the army. That which admits of no doubt is the despatch of all the disposable troops, and especially of the militia, of the empire, to the seat of war.

The *Moniteur* has announced that the *Empress of the French* has entered the fifth month of her pregnancy.

The municipal Council of Boulogne-sur-Mer have unanimously resolved upon the erection of a monument to commemorate the landing of her Majesty at Boulogne, on her recent visit to the Emperor of the French, and have voted a sum of 12,000 francs in aid of that object. They have further called upon the neighbouring districts to send in their contributions towards the expense of the projected memorial. It is proposed that the monument shall be erected as near as possible to the spot at which she landed on the shores of France.

The present money pressure in France excites much attention. The Bank of France has, by a circular letter, summoned those who have deposited with it Rentes and railway shares, either to give new securities, or to reimburse a portion of their loans with cash. Much is said about giving forced currency to banknotes; but the bank has not yet obtained the consent of the emperor, who opposes the measure personally, because he fears that it would produce a bad effect abroad.

In consequence of the dearth of provisions, the emperor has prohibited the exportation of corn, and ordered that the prices of butcher's meat, &c. shall be fixed by official authority. He has also placed at the disposal of the Prefects of Departments a part of the credit of 10 millions opened by the imperial decree of the 22nd of September, to be applied, when necessary, to the relief of the labouring classes.

Certain malefactors connected with a secret society, who attempted to pillage Angers in August, but who were defeated and captured, have been tried. Twelve were acquitted. The three principal leaders, Secretain, Attibert, and Pasquier, were sentenced to transportation and confinement in a fortified enclosure out of the territory of the empire; eleven were condemned to simple transportation; thirteen to ten years' confinement, entailing infamy; and the remainder to periods of imprisonment varying from two to five years.

In consequence of a decision of the minister of state

that henceforth all dramatic pieces submitted to the Commission of Censorship should be examined in the absence of the writers, the Committee of Dramatic Authors presented a memorial to the minister on the subject. The minister has, however, resolved that his first decision shall stand good, but that a new functionary shall be appointed, whose special duty will be to receive the observations of the authors, and who will have the power of reversing the decision of the commission, if the observations of the authors appear to be well-founded.

The Emperor of Russia left Moscow on the 20th of September for Nicolaieff, having previously issued a rescript to the governor, intended to console the public for the fall of Sebastopol. "It is already known," said the czar, "by my order of the day addressed to the Russian armies, that the garrison of Sebastopol, after an unexampled siege of eleven months, after deeds of prowess previously unheard of, after a self-denial, and the repulse of six obstinate attacks, has passed over to the north side of the town, leaving to the enemy only bloody ruins. Sebastopol's heroic defenders have achieved all that human strength could perform. Past and present events I accept as the inscrutable will of Providence, who chastens Russia with heavy hours of trial. But Russia's trials were once far heavier, and God the Lord sent down to her His all-bountiful and invisible aid. Wherefore let us now put our trust in Him: he will defend Russia the orthodox, who has drawn the sword for the just cause, the cause of Christianity. The incessant proofs of all and every one's readiness to sacrifice property, family, and the last drop of their blood for maintaining the integrity of the empire and the national honour, delight me. It is precisely in these national feelings and efforts that I find consolation and strength: and from my whole heart, indissolubly blended with my loyal and gallant people, I, with trust in God's help and grace, repeat the words of Alexander the First, 'Where truth is, there also is God!' I remain unalterably well inclined towards you.—ALEXANDER." He was to have proceeded to the Crimea, to animate the troops by his presence; but a letter from St. Petersburg, in the *Hamburg News*, announces that he will remain at Nicolaieff till the movements and ultimate objects of the allied fleets in the Black Sea are positively known. An imperial ukase orders the embodiment of the militia in the provinces of Orenburg and Samare. The organisation is to commence on the 15th of next month, and terminate on the 15th of December. The proportion is to be 23 men in every 1000 souls.

The emperor has adopted measures of great severity against those who continue to reside abroad. In Livonia, the estates of several noblemen who reside abroad have been placed under guardianship, although their term of permission has not expired. According to a communication lately made to the authorities, the emperor is determined to put an end to the mania of absenteeism on the part of the Russian nobles. In case of any landowner remaining abroad without leave, the tribunals will manage the estates, and render an account of the revenues to the owners for one year, at the expiration of which term the estates, if the owners still remain abroad, will be confiscated, unless particular circumstances can be brought forward to justify a longer delay being granted.

The King of Sardinia has temporarily transferred his authority to his cousin, Prince Eugene of Savoy Carignan. In a decree published on the 29th September in the *Piedmontese Gazette*, empowering Prince Eugene to transact all current and urgent business and sign all royal decrees which require the counter-signature of the ministers, the king states, as a reason for this arrangement, that he shall require a few days of repose to recover his health. This is considered as the preliminary step to the tour which it is known the king contemplates.

Accounts from Tuscany represent a fearful state of increasing distress, caused partly by bad harvests, partly

by cholera, and partly by misgovernment. Already the people in Florence and its neighbourhood were seeking refuge in crime from impending starvation; and the other day a Mr. Corrie, an Englishman, was found murdered in his bed, in Florence, by persons who had evidently done so for the sake of plunder. It would be utterly unjust to impute the aggravated misfortunes the people of Tuscany now suffer to one alone of the causes mentioned. A succession of bad harvests has done severe injury to the agriculturists; the cholera has deprived many families of their main support, for it has been peculiarly destructive to men in Florence this year; the government has destroyed confidence, and consequently crippled trade during the last seven years; and all these causes combined are likely to produce a winter of unparalleled suffering in Tuscany.

The most authentic intelligence from Naples represents that the British grievances with Naples are not settled, as was erroneously supposed; that the government is engaged in preparations for defence both by land and sea, and is filling Gaeta and the forts of Naples with shot and shell. The ships of war have been placed in the military harbour, and a chain-boom thrown across the entrance. Mazza, the late police director, although dismissed, is more powerful than ever.

There were great rejoicings at Berlin on the 15th instant. That day was at once the anniversary of the king's birthday, and of his entrance into the army at the age of ten, and the commencement of the winter term at the University and the first day of the academical year. Couriers, generals, officers, diplomats, went to Potsdam in state, to pay their devotions to the king: the military men presenting him with a sword. At Berlin, the Rector of the University and another professor made orations to the students, dealing but slightly with the birthday, and launching into limitless dissertations on philosophy. In the evening there were illuminations, except in those districts where the price of the oil was devoted to the poor.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* at Copenhagen says, on the 18th instant: "Although it was no secret that the king had contracted amorganatic marriage with a former milliner of the name of Lolla Rasmussen, whom he has elevated to the rank of Countess Danner, yet that step had never been publicly or officially made known. It therefore caused great sensation when the king, at the court and levee he held on his birthday at the palace of Christiansborg in this city, caused her to be present, and presented to her the foreign ambassadors, requesting the latter to notify his marriage to their respective courts. On new year's day she is to be elevated to the rank of duchess."

In Sweden, the news of the fall of Sebastopol has been joyfully received. The students of the University of Upsala assembled in the evening of the day on which the news arrived, on the great square of that city, with flags and banners, and accompanied by masses of the people, proceeded in solemn procession, singing at the same time patriotic songs, to the monument of Gustavus the Great in the Wood of Odin. On their arrival at the obelisk, the patriotic song composed by Bottiger on the occasion of the great festival in honour of Gustavus Adolphus, celebrated here in the year 1832, was sung in chorus with uncovered heads; after which, the Curator of the University mounted the pedestal of the monument, and made a speech expressing the sympathy, the joy, and the hopes for the future, entertained by the students. This address was scarcely finished when the most deafening shouts broke out from the assembled multitude. After nine additional cheers had been given for the allies, and as many groans for Russia, Ilmenberg's beautiful Finnish popular song, "Our land, our land, our fatherland," was sung in chorus by the inspired populace; and the singing of the Swedish National Hymn concluded the ceremony.

The intelligence from the *United States* is not of political interest. Two persons had been found guilty in the Philadelphia Court, of enlisting recruits for the British service; but the sentence was postponed. The yellow fever was subsiding at Norfolk and Portsmouth.

A striking case of *Lynch Law* has occurred in Illinois. An Irish family named M'Lane had recently settled in the state. M'Lane, the head of the family, had a son-in-law named Coxen, a poor but industrious man, who had scraped together some three or four hundred dollars. This sum excited M'Lane's cupidity; he waylaid Coxen in the woods, robbed him of his money, and thought he had murdered him; but Coxen contrived to crawl to the house of a neighbour, to whom he related the circumstance. The news spread: M'Lane was seized, brought before the magistrates, and examined in the presence of an excited multitude. M'Lane obstinately denied the charge; but the people loudly declared their determination to lynch him if he did not disclose where he had concealed the money. "Again and again," says a spectator of the scene, "it was urged on him to no purpose." At this juncture Judge A— stepped up, confronted the prisoner, looked him full in the eye, and in a loud, earnest tone, said:—"William M'Lane, make now your last prayer, for in less than one half-hour your soul will be in eternity. You will carry with you the stain of a brother's blood; but do not, I entreat you again, appear before your God with a lie upon your lips. We have shielded you thus far from an outraged and incensed people, but we can do so no longer." This last fervid appeal brought the culprit to a sense of his real situation. He turned deadly pale, and then called for his wife, who advised him to keep silent, which advice he determined to take. At this a rush was made for the upper floor, the rope thrown over his head, and then commenced a conflict which the pen cannot describe. I had been accustomed to read of lynching affairs, but never until now had I witnessed such a scene. The struggle was between the people, the officers, and the prisoner. While the strife was raging within, the outer yard was thronged with spectators, gazing up into the windows, to catch a glimpse of the battle. Among the number of eager spectators I observed many whose wrinkled brows and silvery locks told plainly that they had long since passed the meridian of life—some of whom, too, had been the pillars of the church for a quarter of a century. Perhaps this was the first time in their whole lives that they had ever been called upon to sanction such a proceeding, and in the atrocity of the crime committed they found their

justification. After a struggle of perhaps a quarter of an hour, in which the prisoner had been several times suspended by the neck, and as often released, to give him a chance to tell of the money, he sued for pardon; and as he stood gasping for breath and telling the spot where the money was concealed, I saw the blood standing on his neck, which had been wrung from it by the rope. After a confession of his guilt and a delivery of the money, the people were content to leave him in the hands of the law, and at the conclusion of the matter they gave six hearty cheers for Judge Lynch.—M'Lane is now lying in prison, awaiting his trial for attempted murder and highway robbery."

A letter from San Francisco, dated Sept. 4, in the *Washington Intelligencer*, gives the following description of the present social condition of *California*:—"Health and climate alone recommend this place. It is almost impossible to conceive how one is rejuvenated and invigorated by this truly delightful climate. But as to the moral state of the country, it is horrible! One of our papers gives us a monthly chronicle of deaths by violence, principally by murder or lynching. From the 1st of January to the 1st of August this year, they were 322 in the state, including two lawfully hanged. Is not this awful? Upwards of 20 were recently lynched in one place for being concerned (or suspected) in some wholesale robberies. Street encounters are so common here that no one is surprised at their announcement in the morning papers. We look for fearful scenes tomorrow, which is the day of election. Last year the Know-Nothings kept things in order, and had it their own way; but their reign is past, and the uprising of the supposed defunct Whigs will convince you of this. The preparations of the democrats for the election tomorrow are vast and complete. I have the worst apprehensions, and shall be most agreeably disappointed if blood does not flow freely at the polls. Two years since any man could make money in California; now it is the reverse, and the scramble for office, from the first to the lowest, is truly terrific. The sheriff's office, even at the reduced fees, is worth at least 50,000 dols. per annum; recorder of mortgages 20,000 dols., and so of others. Think of the numerous aspirants and the desperate means they are willing to employ in order to ensure success. To-morrow is the grand day for the shoulder strikers, the ballot stuffers, the rowdies, and the bullies, and they will all be let loose and hounded upon each other and the community by their respective employers."

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

SIGNS of activity at last begin to show themselves in the great book marts, but as yet it is only promise. The last month has contributed even fewer publications than its predecessor (excluding mere new editions) to the common stock. Mr. Laurence Oliphant has republished from Blackwood's Magazine some chapters on a residence in Canada, under the title of *Minnesota and the Far West*. Sir Henry Holland has greatly enlarged and added to his *Medical Notes and Reflections*. A ninth volume of the new edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* has carried down the work to nearly the close of the letter F. Mr. Heywood has published two more volumes full of early *College and University Statutes* relating to Cambridge. Mr. Wheeler has built up an imaginary biography of the *Life and Travels of Herodotus*, for illustration of the manners and social condition of the ancient nations in the fifth century before Christ. M. Antonio Gallenga has published a *History of Piedmont* in three volumes. From Mr. George Giles Vincent we receive a treatise on the *Science of the Moral Nature*; and from Dr. Massy a volume of analytical ethnology on the *Mixed Tribes in Great Britain and Ireland*, much in favour of the Irish. A volume of *Lectures to Ladies on Practical Subjects*, due to the benevolent activity of the

Rev. Mr. Maurice, has appeared; and to Mr. Evan Hopkins, C.E., we are indebted for a small practical treatise or *Introduction to Geology and Magnetism*. In the way of travels, or observation in foreign countries, we have had M. Herzen's *Exile in Siberia*, Mr. Edward Sullivan's *Beaten Paths from Boulogne to Babylonia*, Baron Haxthausen's *Tribes of the Caucasus* (with an account of Schamyl), and Mr. Baker's *Eight Years' Wanderings in Ceylon*. Mr. Bailey, the author of *Festus*, has published the *Mystic*. Lord Napier has made public his *Notes on Modern Painting at Naples*, and Mr. Thomas Ballantyne has collected into one volume, with a biographical memoir, *Passages from the Writings of T. Carlyle*. The Rev. Robert Greig has collected a series of religious discourses under the title of *The Man Christ Jesus*, and Mr. Sanderson Robbins has summed up in an octavo volume *The Whole Evidence against the Claims of the Roman Church*. In fiction there have been published, a tale by the author of 'Lorenzo Benoni' called *Doctor Antonio*; a novel called *Simplicity and Fascination*, by Miss Beale; *The Lancis of Lynwood*, by the author of 'Heartssease'; and *Millicent*, by the author of 'The Curate of Overton.'

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 20th inst., £11,230,207.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

Gold, stan. per oz.	£3 17 9	Silver bars, stan. per oz.	5 14
Do, dust,	3 17 0	Mexican dollars,	4 11 3

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris.....	0·22 prem.	New York.....	par.
Hamburg.....	0·55 prem.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 6 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols.....	90 1/2	86 1/2	SS 1/2
Three per Cent. Reduced.....	87 1/2	85 1/2	87 1/2
New Three per Cents.....	88 1/2	86 1/2	88 1/2
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3·7-16
Bank Stock, S per cent.....	209	207	208
Exchequer Bills, 2½d.....	7 pm.	1 dis.	2 dis.
India Bonds Bills.....	5 pm.	1 pm.	

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Benns.	Peas.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 22	77 8	59 9	28 8	47 8	49 1	42 11
— 29	77 3	36 4	28 4	48 8	49 5	45 4
Oct. 6	76 6	37 0	28 7	50 10	48 10	46 2
— 13	76 7	38 4	28 6	49 8	49 11	48 7
— 20	76 10	38 10	27 9	50 5	49 10	48 7

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. s.	l. s. l. s.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	72 to 80	Hay... per load 2 to 6 to 10
Malting Barley	38—44	Clover... 4 0—7 7
Oats, best,	29—32	Straw... 1 4—1 10
Wheat, White,	82—88	

Flour—Town made, per skr. 73—75

Country household, 66—68

American, per barl. 41—45

Indian Corn, per qr. 42—44

BREAD, per 4 lbs.—d. d.

Best Wheaten .. 101 to 11

Household .. 92—10

CATTLE—s. d. s. d.

Beasts, per st. 3 4 to 10

Calves .. 3 8—5 0

Sheep .. 3 4—5 0

Pigs .. 3 10—5 0

Wool, per lb.—

South Downs.. 0 11—1 3

Kentish fleeces 1 02—1 12

German Frieze 2 6—3 6

Australian .. 1 0—2 7

Cape..... 0 7—2 0

Spanish .. 1 1—2 0

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 126l.

Iron, Pigs, 21. 17s. to 51. 5s.

Rails, St. 10s. Lead, English

Pig, 25l. 10s. Steel, Swedish

Keg, 20l. 0s. to 21l. 0s.

Tin, English Block, 12s.

Barrel, 12s.; Spelter, 24s.

Quicksilver, per lb., 1s. 9d.

PROVISIONS.

BEEF—Irish India, per tr., 15s.; Hambro, 150s.; American, 120s. to 160s.

BACON, p. cwt.—Irish, 72s. to 75s.; American, 54s. to 58s.

BUTTER—Dorset, p. cwt., 110s. to 116s.; Irish, 94s. to 106s.; Dutch, 84s. to 88s.

CHEESE—Cheshire, per cwt., 60s. to 80s.; Wiltshire, 56s. to 74s.; Dutch, 50s. to 58s.

HAMS—York, 81s. to 100s.; Hesse, 90s. to 98s.; Westphalia, 70s. to 72s.

BEEF—Mid. to prime, p. 1lb., 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.

MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per 8 lb., 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.

PORK, per 8 lb., 3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.

VEAL, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.

POTATOES, per ton, Scotch reds, 80s. to 90s.; Regts, 85s. to 95s.

GROCERY.

Cocoa, per cwt., Trinidad, 43s. to 49s.; Bahia, 40s. to 41s. 6d.

COFFEE per cwt.—Ceylon Native, 50s. 0d. to 51s. 6d.; Do., Plantation, 61s. to 82s.; Mocha, 58s. to 92s.; Jamaica, 57s. to 84s.

RICE, per cwt.—Carolina, duty paid, 20s. 0d. to 38s. 0d.; Bengal, 13s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.

SUGAR—Barbadoes, per cwt., 43s. 6d. to 48s. 6d.; Mauritius, 37s. 6d. to 60s. 0d.; Bengal, 46s. 0d. to 53s. 0d.

DO, REFINED—Grocery lumps, 54s. 6d. to 56s. 6d.; Bastards, 40s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.; Crushed, 36s. 6d.

TEA, per lb. (duty 1s. 9d.)—Congou, 8d. to 2s. 4d.; Souchong, 9s. to 2s. 6d.; Hyson, 1s. 3d. to 4s. 6d.; Assam, 1s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
To Aug. 31 ...	45,757	14,811	68,814	1,771	131,153
September ...	4,787	448	10,253	380	15,873
Total to Sep. 30	50,544	15,259	79,072	2,151	147,026

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£30 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £21	£50 to £55
Sydney ..	40 — 60	18 — 32	15 — 20	35 — 40
Adelaide ..	30 — 65	20 — 35	18 — 21	35 — 40
Hobart Tn.	40 — 65	25 — 35	20 — 22	35 — 40

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural ..	27	North Brit. Australian ..	6
Van Diemen's Land ..	13	Peb River Land ..	28
South Australian Land ..	35	Scottish Austr. Invest. ..	12

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH OCTOBER TO THE 27TH NOVEMBER.

PRICE 2d.
STAMPED 3d.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

THE Right Honourable Henry Labouchere has been appointed Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the room of the late Sir William Molesworth.

Sir Charles Napier has been returned for Southwark in the room of the late Sir William Molesworth. There was no opposition; Mr. Scovell, who had stood for the borough, having withdrawn from the contest.

Mr. Gladstone delivered a lecture on the *Colonies* at Chester on the 12th instant. The bulk of his audience were the members of the Mechanics' Institution, but many distinguished persons of the neighbourhood were also present. He discussed the origin and history of our colonies, enumerated their advantages to the mother-country and the world, and maintained the principle that they ought to be free, and that their affairs should be administered by themselves. In conclusion he said, "Defend your colonies against foreign aggression; regulate their foreign relations; these things belong to the colonial connexion with this country. Of the duration of that colonial connexion let them be the judges. If you leave them that freedom of judgment, it is hard to say when the day will come when they will wish to separate from this great nation."

A Court of Common Council was held on the 29th ult. to consider a motion respecting the *Reform of the Corporation of London*. Mr. Fry moved the following resolution—"That it be desirable to co-operate with her Majesty's government in passing through parliament a bill for the reform of the Corporation, founded upon the resolutions agreed to by this court on the 24th of February 1851; that the Remembrancer be directed to prepare the draft of a bill in conformity with the above resolution to be submitted for the approval of this court; and that a conference be held thereon with her Majesty's government." This motion raised considerable opposition. It was thought that it would be a waste of time to send a bill to parliament founded on those resolutions. Mr. Cox moved an amendment which he subsequently withdrew, to the effect that the resolutions should be reconsidered seriatim. Ultimately, Mr. Fry's motion was defeated by the adoption of two amendments. Mr. Bezley moved "That no further discussion take place until the court have the government bill before them." Carried by 38 to 30. Mr. Jones moved that a committee should be appointed to confer with the government on a bill for a reform of the constitution. Carried by 32 to 28. The following were appointed as a committee—Alderman Finnis, Alderman Cubitt, Alderman Egerton, Mr. W. Jones, Mr. Abraham, Mr. T. H. Fry, Mr. T. H. Hall, Mr. W. L. Taylor, Mr. T. Parker, Deputy Hale, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Wood, Mr. Ross, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Gresham.

The *Political Refugees in Jersey* have published a protest against the banishment of the directors of the newspaper *L'Homme*, filled with denunciations of the Emperor Napoleon, and concluding with the words—"Now expel us if you choose;" the British Government ordered the whole of the thirty-four, including Victor Hugo and his son, to quit the island within a week.

A meeting was held at St. Martin's Hall on the 12th inst., to Protest Against the Expulsion of the Refugees from Jersey. The following resolution was moved by Mr. Washington Wilks, seconded by Mr. Ernest

Jones, and adopted without dissent—"That this meeting utters its indignant protest against the recent expulsion of refugees from Jersey; and affirms that foreigners landing in the dominions of the British Crown become at once entitled to the natural and legal right of Englishmen—a public examination and trial by jury before exposure to any penal consequences. That this meeting pledges itself and calls upon the country to resist by all lawful means the apprehended attempt to carry through parliament an act invalidating or restricting the right of sanctuary."

Mr. W. J. Fox met his constituents at Oldham on the 24th inst.; nearly 2,000 persons were present. The principal topic of his address was the *War*. He scouted the opinions of the peace party, and concluded a powerful speech with the following vigorous peroration: "I rejoice that in this hive of industry, in this borough which a hundred years ago was only a few miserable hovels, but which has now a busy population of 80,000 people—I rejoice that in this place where all are at work, from the little factory girl to the great capitalist—I rejoice that here, where you have men who can win European honours for inventions and the application of skill, and where you have also the multitudes who by their daily toil earn their daily sustenance—I rejoice that here, in Oldham, in the very heart and centre of these great interests and of these influential opinions which might lead in a different direction, you declare yourself spontaneously, decidedly, and unreservedly in favour of such a peace as war alone can win, and successful war, against the great enemy and robber of Europe. I say that such an admirable demonstration from you will tell, it will tell throughout the country, from John o'Groats to the Land's End, that the great manufacturing districts are not the focus of discontent and indecision, or of the craven spirits begging for peace at any rate, but that they are the abodes of men, high-minded men, who are solicitous for the honour of their country and for the deliverance of Europe. Where, then, I would say, are the privations of war? This country has shown itself, and brilliantly shown itself, great in all the virtues of peace; it has known how to increase its prosperity and make that prosperity the means of blessings to other lands. It has won its way to the foremost rank among the nations in literature, in the arts and sciences; it has put itself forward, and with justice, in its moral claims upon the world; it has been generous in its reception of the fugitive; it has been faithful to its allies, and it will not shrink back on account of sufferings from the great and benevolent object, I may call it, the great and glorious object which it has in hand; but as there is a God that judges in the earth, I trust we can rely upon His Providence to give victory to the right, and peace, independence, and freedom to the nations." Mr. Fox's address was loudly cheered, and a vote of thanks to him was passed by acclamation.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A DREADFUL Murder has been committed near Shotley-bridge in the County of Durham. Mr. Robert Stirling, a young surgeon, having completed his studies in Edinburgh, was spending a short time with Mr. Watson,

surgeon, at Byer's-green, whom he was assisting in his practice; but he intended shortly leaving for the East as he was under orders to join the Turkish Contingent. On the 1st instant he left Mr. Watson's residence to visit some patients residing in the out-lying districts of Thornley, Barlow, and Low-Spen. He had completed his last visit about 1 o'clock in the afternoon at Spen, and that was the last time he was seen alive. He never again returned to Mr. Watson's residence; and on the evening of the 6th his body was discovered in a copse near Derwent-bridge, a short distance from Gibside-park. His face was dreadfully beaten in and bruised, and it was found that he had been shot through the abdomen. His watch had been stolen, and his pockets had been rifled. It appears that on leaving the farm house he had proceeded down a lane leading past Derwent-bridge, which is somewhat solitary, and in passing a clump of trees had been shot by some one lying in ambush, and then dragged through a hedge to the plantation, where his body was found, and there either despatched by being beaten about the head with the butt-end of a gun or with two large stones that were found near. He had then been robbed of all he had. This fearful outrage was committed upon a public road not far distant from some houses, and several labourers were working in a neighbouring field, and they state that they neither heard nor saw anything unusual. The day of the murder was the rent-day at Gibside-park, and some of the farmers belonging to the estate had to pass down the lane where the murder was committed to go to the hall with their rents; and there is reason to think that Mr. Stirling, being observed to come from a farm-house, was taken for one of them, and so robbed and murdered.

Dr. Hermann Francks, an eminent German man of letters, and formerly editor of the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, committed Suicide at Brighton, on the 3rd instant. He arrived at the Albion Hotel, the preceding afternoon, with his son, a fine youth of fifteen. The father and son slept in a double-bedded room. Early in the morning Dr. Francks threw himself out of the window, fell into the area, and was killed on the spot. His son was found dead in his bed; a silk handkerchief was twisted round his neck, from which it was inferred that he had died from strangulation. It was proved at the inquest that Dr. Francks was in easy circumstances, had shown no signs of mental aberration, and that he and his son were on the most affectionate terms. The jury returned this verdict:—"That the son was found strangled in bed, but whether by his own hand, or by the hand of another, there was no evidence to show; and that the father destroyed himself by throwing himself out of window while in an unsound state of mind." This strange and distressing case has occasioned much speculation, and various views have been taken of the nature and causes of the catastrophe. Dr. Forbes Winslow, in a letter published in the *Times*, gives it as his opinion that the son died suddenly, from some natural cause—disease of the heart, apoplexy, or epileptic convulsions; and that the father destroyed himself while in a paroxysm of temporary delirium, frenzy, or mental aberration, induced by the mental shock consequent upon the appalling discovery of his son's sudden death.

On the 3rd instant, Mr. Mackenzie, Inspector of the Bow-street police-station, attended to complain of the Refusal by the Porters of St. Martin's Workhouse to admit a poor Boy, who was found wandering in the District during the inclement weather of the previous night. It appeared that between 10 and 11 o'clock the forlorn condition of the boy attracted the notice of a gentleman, who found him wandering, homeless, friendless, and destitute, in the neighbourhood of Long-acre. He was inquiring the way to Durham; and, on being asked how he came to be in London, he stated that he had been brought from North Shields by the captain of a collier, who requiring his services no longer, had put him on shore at one of the bridges, and left him penniless, to shift for himself. Consequently he wanted to find his way back to Durham, intending to walk home. The gentleman, after giving the lad some refreshment at a coffee-house, in Wilson-street, sent him under the charge of a constable to the Bow-street station. Inspector Mackenzie

kept him there a short time, the weather being such that he would not, as he said, have sent out a dog to encounter it; and eventually he despatched a constable with the boy to St. Martin's Workhouse, requesting the porter to give him shelter for the night. The porter refused to admit him, alleging that "Wilson street" was not in his district; but Inspector Mackenzie, on hearing this, sent the boy a second time, with an intimation that both Wilson-street and Long-acre (where he had been found destitute) were in the parish of St. Martin, and the case was one which ought to have their attention. On this occasion, however, the porter declined to open the door even, and, speaking to the constable through the iron grating in one of the panels, desired him to be off and take the boy back again to where he found him. Under these circumstances, the inspector gave the lad such shelter and food as the station afforded for the night, intending to submit the case to the magistrate the next morning. Mr. Jardine said it was certainly a case for the workhouse rather than the police, and he would write at once to the relieving-officer for an explanation upon the subject. About three hours afterwards, Mr. Kingston, the relieving-officer, waited upon his Worship, and stated that the boy was refused admission solely in consequence of the workhouse being already quite full. Indeed, if the boy had been let in somebody else must have been turned out. There were often 60 or 70 more applications for admission in a single night than they could find admission for; and this being so, what could they do? Mr. Jardine said, he might not understand the law so well as Mr. Kingston, but he conceived that they were bound to find accommodation for the casual poor of the district, even if they hired it, and charged the expense to the rate-payers. Mr. Kingston observed that if 70 were provided with lodgings in this way one night, there would be double the number of applicants the next night, and where would the system stop? The plain fact was, that by far the majority of applicants were thieves and prostitutes, who found that the accommodation provided at St. Martin's was better than that of other workhouses, and better than they were in the habit of getting at 4d. per night (as the people themselves openly boasted to each other) at the common lodging-houses. The workhouse servants had difficulties to contend with which no one, without experience of the matter, could rightly estimate. Mr. Jardine was quite prepared to admit this, and he at the same time acknowledged the injustice of allowing the workhouse to be turned into a lodginghouse for the class of persons referred to by Mr. Kingston; but the present was not a case of the kind, and it was strange indeed if a corner could not be found for the poor boy who was twice sent to the house by the police, and twice refused admission. If (Mr. Jardine) considered that in all cases which had the recommendation of the police admission ought to be granted. Mr. Kingston stated that he was not present on the night in question, or the result might have been different. He would take the boy for the present, however, and see what could be done for him. His Worship having expressed himself satisfied, Mr. Kingston took the boy away with him.

An atrocious Outrage has been perpetrated in the little village of Conisborough, near Doncaster. The premises known as Conisborough Mills are occupied by Messrs. Booth and Sons, hook and sickle manufacturers. Mr. Booth, sen., and his wife reside in a house near these premises. At about three o'clock on Saturday morning, the 3rd inst., they were suddenly aroused by a crashing noise at the bedroom window. Mr. Booth immediately sprang out of bed, when he saw the bedroom window broken, a ladder broken against it, and a bottle with a lighted fuse attached to it lying on the floor. Suspecting that it was an explosive machine, he seized his wife and rushed with her towards the door, when a violent explosion took place, and the room was instantly filled with smoke and a powerful odour of sulphur; at the same time the bed-furniture and some wearing apparel burst into flames. Fortunately neither Mr. nor Mrs. Booth, both of whom are elderly people, was hurt, and as soon as the smoke had cleared off they applied themselves to the extinguishing of the flames, in which they ultimately succeeded. The noise of the

explosion had alarmed other persons in the village, who promptly came to the assistance of the terrified inmates, but no traces of the perpetrator of the diabolical and cowardly outrage could be found. On examining the house it was discovered that the ceiling of the apartment in which the explosion took place was elevated two or three inches above its former position, as was also the ceiling of an adjacent closet; one of the walls was cracked, the bed-room door by which Mr. and Mrs. Booth were attempting to escape was forced three inches out of its position, and the walls were deeply indented with the fragments of the stone bottle in which the explosive matter had been confined; several tiles were also blown off the roof. It is difficult to imagine in what motive this dastardly deed has had its origin, for the workmen in the employ of Messrs. Booth have had a regular engagement at full wages, and their earnings have always been punctually paid; moreover, Mr. Booth and his family are respected throughout the village. It is stated that two of their hands were missing on the night of the outrage; Mr. Booth himself distinctly heard the footsteps of some one running away just previously to the explosion taking place, but no footmarks, nor anything else to lead to the identification of the guilty persons, have yet been discovered. A reward of £20*l.* has been offered—namely, £5*l.* by Mr. Booth, £5*l.* by the Conisborough Association for the Prosecution of Felons, and 2*l.* by the Sheffield Trade Protection Society, for the detection and conviction of the perpetrator of the crime.

Mr. R. Philip, lately provost of Leith, was tried on the 3rd inst. before the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, charged with *Indecent Practices* towards girls under or about the age of puberty, as also assault. The ex-Provost, who is a widower, aged sixty-five, has long been one of the leading citizens of Leith and was reputed to be a man of considerable wealth. Since his appointment to the provostship, and previously, he had taken a prominent part in the benevolent and religious enterprises of the community of Leith. He had held the office of provost for four consecutive years. The indictment set forth that on the 26th of September, 1855, in the pannel's office, Old Church wharf, Leith, he committed the offence stated on the persons of two girls, in presence of the other in each case, one of them, named M'Kenzie, being ten; the other, named Smith, being twelve years of age. Both were the daughters of working men. The proceedings occupied the court from nine o'clock in the morning till nine o'clock at night. The jury, after an absence of three-quarters of an hour, returned with a verdict of Guilty. The Lord Justice Clerk, in passing sentence, said, the very circumstances which ought here to have produced restraint of any inordinate and strange desires which might come across a man, only aggravated his guilt. Looking to the practice of the Court in regard to such sentences, and looking to the sentence pronounced that day in the case of a youth found guilty of libidinous practices even on one child, the Court had no other course left than to pronounce in the case of the prisoner at the bar, the sentence of fifteen years' transportation. The case to which the Lord Justice Clerk referred in passing sentence was that of J. Samuel, private of the Edinburgh County Militia, aged only seventeen years, who, having pleaded guilty of assault on a girl of six years of age, was sentenced to transportation for fifteen years.

The attempt to create *Sunday Disturbances* in Hyde Park have been continued during this month. On the 4th instant there was an immense and disgracefully riotous mob, excited to violence by orators belonging to a society calling themselves the Working Men's Provision League, and several persons were pelted and grossly mal-treated. Some of the rioters were captured, and fined next day by the police magistrates. On the 11th vigorous measures had been adopted to keep the peace. The crowd was as great as ever; but the numbers and dispositions of the police put down every attempt to get up a riot. On the 18th no such attempt was made, and the day passed off quietly.

Among the cases which daily occur in the police-courts of *Cruel Treatment of Wives by their Husbands*, the following is a remarkable instance of the anxiety shown by the poor victims to screen their husbands from

punishment. James Hall was brought before the Southwark police-court on the 6th instant, charged with committing a ruffianly assault on his wife. The woman who exhibited several bruises on the forehead, ascended the witness-box, and with great reluctance gave the following evidence, the prisoner all the time looking at her in a threatening manner. She said she had no wish to press the charge against him, as he was generally a good husband, and never ill-used her before the previous night. The constable who took him in charge said, that when they arrived at the station-hous^s she said he had illused her almost every day since they were married. Complainant: I did not mean to say so. He did not hurt me last night, and what he did was owing to my own conduct. Mr. Combe: Is there anybody present who witnessed the assault, as it seems perfectly clear to me that this brutal fellow has been threatening his wife with vengeance if she speak the truth against him? Mr. Gillies, a linen-draper in St. George's-road, stepped forward and said, that on the previous night he was transacting some business in Bermondsey-street, when he saw the prisoner, without the slightest provocation, attack his wife and knock her down like a bullock. While she was on the ground he pulled her off the pavement by the hair of the head, dragging handfuls of hair out at the same time, causing the woman to scream dreadfully. He called the assistance of a constable, and they prevented the prisoner from committing further brutality towards his wife, and then he was given into custody. Blood was flowing from her head at the time. Mr. Combe (to the wife): What have you to say to what this gentleman says about your husband? Is that true? Complainant (looking tremulously at her husband): He did not hurt me, sir! and as for my hair, that was loose. I don't want to hurt him. Please let him go. Mr. Combe: How long have you been married? Complainant: Ten months, sir. Mr. Combe: And he has ill-used you all the time? Complainant: Oh no, sir; he has not. Let him go, sir, for the sake of the children. Mr. Combe: You say you have only been married to him ten months. Whose children are you talking about? Complainant: My own children by a former husband; and we all rely on him for support. Mr. Gillies here informed his worship that the woman told him her husband had beaten her ever since they had been married, and that she was afraid he would murder her. Witness never saw a man act like a greater brute towards a woman before. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said he had been drinking, and his wife came after him to the public-house. When he came out they quarrelled, but he had no recollection of pulling her hair from her head. He never beat her before. Mr. Combe said he should commit the prisoner to Wandsworth House of Correction for three months with hard labour. The prisoner seemed quite thunderstruck at his Worship's decision, and was removed from the dock amid the cries of his wife.

On the night of the 6th inst., a *Daring and Artful Robbery* was perpetrated in Little Cannon-street, Birmingham. Some days before, Mr. Brown, a watchmaker, carrying on business in Coventry, was waited on by a stranger, respectable in appearance, who ordered twenty gold watches to be ready for him by a given day. The man again called, and inquired if the order had been attended to. Being informed that the watches were ready for delivery, he assumed the appearance of being in hurry, and said he could not wait for them; but added that if Mr. Brown put them in a little box and brought them over to Birmingham by the six o'clock train on the following Tuesday evening, he (the customer) should be at the New-street Station on its arrival, and would then and there pay for the watches. Mr. Brown agreed to this, and came to Birmingham according to arrangement. His customer, however, did not keep the appointment, though Mr. Brown loitered about the station for two or three hours. Towards ten o'clock he left the station. Turning into little Cannon-street he was suddenly pounced upon by four men. One of them seized him round the waist; another covered his face with a plastron composed of pitch and soot; a third snatched from his hand the box containing the watches; the fourth rifled his pockets of what money they possessed; and having secured their

booty, the Russians felled him to the ground and ran off. He lay for a minute or two in a half-insensible state, but at last some of the persons living in the street, attracted by his groans, came to his assistance. So quietly had the whole transaction been managed that they had heard no sound either of the scuffle or of the thieves running off. The constable on the beat also came up soon afterwards, and it appeared that on going his rounds ten minutes previously, he observed four men standing near Little Cannon-street, though the earliness of the hour prevented his having any suspicion of their intentions. The value of the watches was £174*l.*, and notes and gold to the amount of 30*l.* unfortunately accompanied them. Information having been given in the course of the night to Inspector Glossop, he and his detectives at once set inquiries on foot, which resulted in the apprehension at an early hour in the morning of five desperate fellows, three of whom were returned convicts and ticket-of-leave men. Their names are William Hodgens, Samuel Walker, John Wood, Joseph Lee, and Thomas Wootton. Inspector Glossop was prepared to prove that they were from home during the night; that they were in company on Tuesday evening in the centre of the town; that they resembled the men the constable saw near the spot; and one or two other circumstances which would have been important in case Mr. Brown could have identified them. This he was unable to do, however, and consequently they had to be discharged by the magistrate, when brought up, on remand, on Friday last. As Mr. Brown has since heard nothing of his customer, the presumption is that the whole was a cleverly planned scheme for robbing him. He had doubtless been watched and followed about during the whole evening.

A poor woman applied to the Southwark police magistrate, on the 7th inst., to complain of the conduct of the *Land Transport Office*. She stated that about nine months ago her husband joined the Land Transport Corps in London, and prior to his enlistment the captain told him his wife would be provided for out of his pay. Shortly afterwards she was sent to the Crimea, and although she was told that she was to receive a guinea a-week from her husband, she had never received a farthing. She had been to the recruiting office and to the pay-office, but could get no money at either place, and now she was starving. She added that she wrote to her husband every month, but he never received her letters complaining of the want of money. She received his letters regularly, and he believed she was living in comparative comfort. Mr. Combe said he was very sorry for her, but it was not in his power to assist her. He should advise her to apply by letter to the Secretary at War, who, no doubt, would investigate the matter. The applicant thanked his Worship for his advice, and assured him that she would immediately write to the Secretary at War; but she expected that her condition would not be much improved, as she had frequently applied to the other authorities connected with the Land Transport Corps.

Robert Martinson, the cashier of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Bank, who absconded after *Stealing nearly 5000*l.**, was apprehended on the 7th inst., at Southampton, on board the United States mail-steamer Washington, just as she was about to leave that port for New York. He had been advertised for, and 100 guineas reward offered for his apprehension, and a detective officer had been in Southampton for some time on the look-out for him. Mr. Hillier, a clerk to Messrs. Croskey and Co., agents for the Washington steamer, recognised him amongst the other passengers on board the Washington, and gave him into custody of the detective. The delinquent cashier had been living at an inn in the town pretty freely. In the morning, two or three hours before the Washington sailed, he gave the landlord of the inn two 100*l.* Bank of England notes to get changed. The latter took them to a bank in the town, where some demur was made as to giving change for them. The presenter of the notes stated that they belonged to a gentleman who had put up at his house. This caused the banker to decline changing them, unless that gentleman could give a reference. When the landlord returned to his house, he found that the owner of the notes had gone on board the Washington to arrange about his berth, and he

then thought that he would take the notes to Messrs. Croskey and Co., to endeavour to obtain change for them there. Mr. Hillier, the clerk in the office, hearing the landlord mention the circumstance about the notes, and having read the advertisement about Martinson, went on board, saw him, and also saw that he answered the description given in the advertisement, and he then very quietly put himself in communication with the detective, and gave the delinquent into custody. In less than an hour afterwards the latter was on his way to London instead of to New York.

A *Murderous Agrarian Outrage* has taken place in the King's County. Mr. Ramsbottom, of Moorock Lodge, near Ballycumber, acting as agent for Captain Humphrey, had been compelled to eject a tenant from a bit of land by process of law. Mr. Ramsbottom was returning home in the afternoon after obtaining possession of the land, his clerk, Mr. Beecham, walking by his side: two villains fired at them from behind a hedge; Mr. Beecham was nearest to the assailants, and received both the charges of their guns—a bullet passed through his neck, and a number of slugs lodged in his mouth, arm, and other parts of his body. The constabulary arrested five men on suspicion the same evening; but the magistrates felt bound to liberate them the next day. Mr. Beecham is stated to be recovering.

A most daring *Burglary* was committed on the morning of the 9th instant in the house of Mr. Hampshire, a respectable tradesman, residing at Tingle Bridge, near Barnsley. The robbers, five in number, effected an entrance at the kitchen door, with an instrument which cut a hole in the door, by means of which the door was unbolted. The robbers proceeded to the bedroom of Mr. and Mrs. Hampshire, and threatened to murder them if they made any alarm. Mr. Hampshire was covered with the clothes, and almost smothered; while an instrument was placed round Mrs. Hampshire's neck, resembling, as she thought, a piece of hoop iron, which a man held at both ends, almost strangling her. Mrs. Hampshire presented a very disfigured appearance, her neck being very black, and her eyes protruding from the fearful injury she had received. Meantime the other villains were ransacking the house for money, and about 30*l.* fell into their hands. They all had their faces covered with black crape, or marks of some description, so that their features could not be discerned. The entrance was effected about half-past one o'clock, and they departed about two, saying they would go down stairs and have some refreshment, telling Mr. and Mrs. Hampshire that it would be at the peril of their lives if they made any alarm. However, the burglars did not make any long stay, but hastened away. Mr. Hampshire is a grocer and flour-dealer, and the thieves, in addition to the money, took a quantity of tobacco, cheese, sugar, and other articles. The door of a cottage house, under the same roof, was securely fastened by the robbers before entering Mr. Hampshire's, so that he might not receive any assistance from his neighbour.

A curious case of *Mistaken Identity* has occurred in the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh. Alexander Watt, a young man, clerk to a solicitor, was placed at the bar charged with forgery of a check for 35*l.* upon the Edinburgh Commercial Bank, and with uttering it and receiving payment from the Clydesdale Bank there. His employer, Mr. John Murray, whose name was endorsed on the check as the payee, declared his signature a forgery, and the name of the grantor, William Robb, appeared to be a fictitious one, the Commercial Bank having no account with any person of that name. The check-clerk and the teller at the Clydesdale Bank spoke positively to Watt having presented and forged the check about one o'clock on the 14th of September, and received payment. Witnesses for the defence, however, testified to Watt being engaged in business in another part of the town at that time; and two gentlemen who knew Watt intimately, deposed to having seen a person pass them in the street while Watt was understood to be in gaol, but whom they erroneously took to be him. One of these gentlemen, Mr. Clark, a member of the Scottish bar, had employed Watt as his clerk for a year, and had a high opinion of him. One day early in October, he saw two

individuals talking in St. Andrew-square, one of whom he took to be his former clerk, and went forward to speak to him. On approaching him the resemblance increased, and he felt certain it was Watt; but, as he was about to address him, the person turned round slightly, and he saw he was quite mistaken. Witness was very much struck with the resemblance in figure as well as in dress. The character of the prisoner was borne high testimony to as steady and trustworthy, as well as temperate and industrious. On the evidence being concluded, the Lord-Advocate said there could be no doubt that this was a case of mistaken identity of a very remarkable character, and he regretted that in investigating the forgery which had undoubtedly been committed, Mr. Watt should have, from an unfortunate coincidence of circumstances, been placed in this painful situation. Being convinced that this charge proceeded from error, the jury would acquit the prisoner. Under direction of the court the jury found Watt "Not guilty," and he was liberated amid the applause of a crowded assemblage.

The tradesmen of Southampton have been extensively victimised by an accomplished Swindler. Among the passengers by the Brunswick steamer from Plymouth to Southampton last June was a Mr. Arlington, a foreigner, who spoke English. Before he landed he made inquiries about the hotels of the latter place, and he was recommended to put up at the Pier Hotel. He was remarkably affable and punctilious in paying his bill, which he always insisted on doing daily at mid-day, although he had sufficient luggage to ensure a longer credit. After some time he expressed to Mr. Curtis, host of the Pier Hotel, his perfect satisfaction at the accommodation that had been afforded him, and stated that for economy's sake he had taken private lodgings at Woolston, about a mile from the town, from whence he afterwards removed to Bernard-street, near the railway terminus. Here he resided until very lately. He has for months been seen living in Southampton in good style, riding the best horses and driving the best carriages to be found at the livery stables in the town. Often during the day he used to lounge in the shops of the principal tradesmen, giving orders and smoking cigars. He seemed to take quite a fancy to Mr. Curtis, of the Pier Hotel, and frequently visited him, to smoke cigars and drink wine in his coffee-room. He was a capital judge of cigars and wine, and was particularly struck with the superior qualities of those articles which he obtained at the hotel. At first he paid for everything he had, but after a time he ran up a bill of about 10*l.* When he bought a horse he always came to Mr. Curtis for his opinion on his purchase. At length he stated that he had taken a cottage in the New Forest, where he was going to rusticate, and he ordered a large quantity of wines, spirits, and cigars to stock his cottage wine-bins and spirit stores. The wine, spirits, and cigars were all packed and ready to be sent out at a moment's notice. Their departure was delayed, however, on account of the delay of the workmen in getting the cottage ready. Mr. Curtis also had an order to provide a dinner for house-warming as soon as the cottage was ready. About twenty persons were to be of the dinner party. Mr. Curtis drew out a bill of fare, and arranged the garniture of the dinner tables on paper. It was to be a splendid affair. It was arranged that the hotel keeper was to go with his cook into the New Forest to superintend the getting up of the dinner. The cottage poultry-yard was extensive, and Mr. Curtis had agreed, at the special request of his patron, to take all the poultry reared by the latter, for his hotel, at the market price. A few weeks ago Mr. Curtis had promised to let Mr. Arlington have a newspaper, of a certain date, to read, and failed to do so. The next day the former took the paper to Bernard-street, intending to apologise for the delay, but Mr. Arlington was most indignant; he would neither take the paper nor listen to the apology. He was a man of his word, he said, and he would not suffer any one to be otherwise with whom he dealt. The scorn of the gentleman rather provoked the landlord, and he left in dudgeon. Mr. Arlington rather relented, and called after him and said, that as Mr. Curtis had brought the paper he would take it. The landlord now had his revenge, and replied, "No, sir;

you would not have the paper—you are a man of your word, and now you shall not have the paper." Mr. Arlington was pleased with the wit and spirit of the landlord; and in a week afterwards he called again at the hotel, apologised for his own quick temper, and rallied Curtis on his. He then, as usual, smoked cigars and drank a bottle of wine, talked confidentially with the landlord about money matters, stated that he had purchased shares in the Hampshire Bank, that he had lent 500*l.* on a life policy to set up a young tradesman in the town, offered Mr. Curtis a 100*l.* or so, as he was a young beginner, and left him with a cordial grasp of the hands and borrowed of him ten guineas until his government dividends became due. Soon after this, Mr. Curtis had business to Winchester, and returning from thence in a chaise, he stopped at Otterbourne, to bait his horse. There he met Mr. Arlington with a disreputable female. Thinking that that gentleman was in the New Forest superintending the preparation of his cottage, he was rather surprised to find him at Otterbourne, and in such company too; and now for the first time it struck him that all was not right. He began to institute some inquiries, and soon found that his patron's statement of having bought horses of a livery-stable keeper was not true, and that he had only hired them. He next drove into the New Forest, and ascertained that the cottage was still to let, and he began to reflect that each time he had been invited into the forest to see the cottage and to shoot was on foreign packet days, when he could not possibly get away. He at once went to the person in Bernard-street where Mr. Arlington lodged, revealed his suspicions, and made arrangements to become acquainted with any preparations for the removal of the foreign gentleman from the town, and had resolved to act promptly and determinedly by forcibly stopping his exit. Unfortunately the bird flitted one midnight without his being made acquainted with it, and he was cheated. The livery-stable keeper was also cheated of about 50*l.* for hire of horses and carriages; and some of the shrewdest tradesmen in the town were victimised very considerably. Mr. Curtis, as soon as he heard his friend had bolted, rushed to London after him, but could not trace him. He and his fellow victims have laid their case before the Southampton magistrates, who of course could afford them no redress. Mr. Arlington is very short, about 35 years of age, wears black whiskers, and is not very gentlemanly looking. He wore generally a low-crowned hat. His appearance would be taken to be a German, though he spoke English with a French accent. Considering the time, viz., five months, he has been in Southampton, living on his wits, and the reputed shrewdness of his victims, he must be considered a very finished pupil of his school.

A case came before the Southwark magistrate, on the 14th inst., *Curiously Illustrative of the Trade with Russia carried on through Prussia*. A labourer was charged with stealing a quantity of Russian tallow from Mark Brown's wharf in the city. The magistrate asked whom the tallow belonged to? One of the owners of Mark Brown's wharf said that the tallow had just arrived from Russia, consigned to an English firm; and was unloading at this wharf, to be bonded for the owners. The tallow came over in casks; and on the previous afternoon witness perceived the head of one broken out, and a large quantity of the tallow taken out. The prisoner worked on the wharf, and he had no doubt the tallow produced came out of that cask. Mr. Combe: "You say this is Russian tallow, and unloading from a vessel just arrived; how is it that you have Russian tallow from that country, when we are at war?" Wharfinger: "Easy enough, sir. We have large dealings with Russia although we are at war, and our money is extensively received in return. Nearly all our tallow comes from Russia," Mr. Combe: "How does it come from Russia, when all her ports are blockaded and the war is proceeding?" Witness: "It comes through Prussia, your Worship. The tallow in question came from Memel in a Dutch vessel." Mr. Combe: "What part of Russia does this tallow come from?" Wharfinger: "From St. Petersburg. It is there sold by the merchants on English account; to the

care of a Prussian firm, who convey it through Russia and Prussia to Memel, where it is publicly shipped to England. Not only tallow comes into the market largely from Russia, but hemp, flax, and dyewoods. We are constantly receiving those sort of goods: but tallow is declining, so much so that the prices are much higher, having risen to 7s. the hundredweight." The thief was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

The Rev. Dr. John Vaughan, incumbent of St. Matthew's Church, Brixton, appeared by counsel at the Lambeth Police-office, on the 12th and 16th inst., to answer a summons at the instance of the churchwardens, who alleged that he had been in the habit of *Falsifying the Registers for his own Personal Benefit*. From the statement which had been made on applying for the summons, it appeared that the rev. doctor had been in the habit of keeping the registers of burials that occurred in the district of which he is the incumbent, and that it was his practice to bury persons who had resided out of the district in the burial-ground of the church, charging double fees for them, whereas for the parishioners who died only single fees were charged. These double fees had been taken in many cases, and the registers had been falsified for the purpose of enabling the incumbent to place the difference in his own pocket, instead of accounting for it, as he ought to have done, to the churchwardens. It was further stated that in the cases charged against him the rev. gentleman had stated that the person on whose account he had received double fees had resided within the district, knowing it to be false, and upon that pretence had only accounted for single fees. The first case related to the interment of a person named Raven, the registry of whose death was proved by Mr. Booth, the registrar. Mr. F. Haydon said he was an undertaker at Stockwell. He conducted the funeral of W. Raven, who resided in Stockwell-grove, in the district of Kennington, not that of St. Matthew's, Brixton. In order to the interment of Raven, he applied to Malby, the sexton, on the evening previous to the funeral. Malby refused to take the interment, unless witness saw Dr. Vaughan, as the deceased lived out of the district. On the following morning witness saw Dr. Vaughan, who at once refused to take it. Witness represented that Raven's friends were very anxious that he should be buried there, as a child of his had been buried there a few weeks previous. Dr. Vaughan then consented, and witness paid him double fees at the doctor's request, the amount being £1. 15s. He gave two sovereigns to Dr. Vaughan, who gave him a receipt and five shillings. When Dr. Vaughan handed him the receipt he said that if any person asked him where the funeral came from he was to tell a lie, and say Robert-street (in St. Matthew's district). Cross-examined: He did not consider it to be his duty to remonstrate with Dr. Vaughan. The rev. gentleman said "Tell a lie," and did not at all conceal his object. He had destroyed the doctor's receipt, it being his custom to burn such documents as soon as his customers settled his bills. George Malby, the sexton of the district church of St. Matthew, Brixton, confirmed this statement; in cross-examination he said that Dr. Vaughan had never directed him to tell a lie about matters of business. The rev. gentleman had kindly given him £2. to pay a distress out of his house. Witness subsequently brought an action against him for £2. 10s., when Dr. Vaughan pressed him for the £2., brought an action against him for the amount, and recovered it in the County Court. Witness had never been accused by Dr. Vaughan of stealing the burial fees. In the case of a person named Harrison, he received permission from Dr. Vaughan to keep back 6s., in order to return it to the relatives of the deceased. It was the custom of the doctor in cases of poverty to return the fees, and this was one of those cases. A son and two daughters of the accused were then examined, and strenuously denied that the directions to Haydon to tell a lie about the place from whence the funeral came had been uttered, they being present at the interview. The next case was that of a person named Begby. It was stated that Begby died in Guy's Hospital, in the parish of St. Olave's, Southwark, and a certificate of his death was obtained preparatory to his burial. His burial was at the district church of St. Matthew's Brixton, and the

certificate of such burial stated a different place to that at which he died. Double fees were paid for the funeral. In a third case, that of Ann Webb, the details were similar to the others. The magistrate committed Dr. Vaughan for trial, taking bail for his appearance; two sureties in 500*l.* each, and the doctor himself in 1000*l.*, in each case.

On the 19th, George Malby, the sexton of St. Matthews, appeared to answer a summons by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, charging him with *Perjury*. The charge arose out of Malby's evidence in the preceding case. On the application of Malby's counsel, the hearing of this case was postponed.

A melancholy *Suicide* has been committed by Mr. C. Mosley, a middle-aged man, who had been many years a clerk in the bank of Messrs. Prescott and Co. He had dreamed that officers were in pursuit of him for forgeries upon the bank, and, although he subsequently attended to his usual business in that establishment, his dream (for which it may be stated, there is no suspicion whatever of any foundation in fact) had a most distressing effect upon his mind, and he frequently conversed about it. His wife endeavoured to reason with him cheerfully in order to banish the impression, but his rest was again disturbed by a similar dream, and about four o'clock in the morning he left his bed and hurried down stairs. Mrs. Moseley, followed him as soon as she missed him from the room, but he had already entered the kitchen, and with a carving-knife, ripped open his abdomen, and actually cut off a portion of the bowel which protruded through the wound, and in his frenzy, would have inflicted a still further mutilation, had he not been prevented by a policeman, who was called in. He was attended as soon as possible by medical men, and although suffering terribly, retained a perfect consciousness, and spoke rationally, till nearly the last moment of his existence. He lived about three hours after having committed the act.

On the 21st instant an inquest was held at Bethlehem Hospital, on the body of William Champion, a criminal lunatic, who had committed *Suicide*. He was tried at York in July 1854, for stabbing, and acquitted on the ground of insanity. He was a sailor, and a native of Whitby, in Yorkshire. He was admitted into the above hospital on the 23rd of November, 1854, was of a dissatisfied and sometimes very violent disposition, and had been treated as an invalid ever since his admission into the institution. On the 19th, in the evening, he was seen by one of the attendants standing near a stove with four or five other lunatics. There was then nothing peculiar in his manner. Ten minutes afterwards he was found hanging by his neck in the water-closet, he having suspended himself by means of his neckerchief and braces. The jury returned a verdict of insanity.

The Dublin Court of Queen's Bench has given a judgment deciding that a *Clergyman of the Established Church can validly perform the Marriage Ceremony for himself*. The case came before the court on a special verdict, finding that the plaintiff, Albert S. Beamish, brought an *ejectment* on the title against the defendant, his uncle, to recover an extensive property in the County of Cork, the defendant denying the plaintiff's legitimacy, and claiming, therefore, to be the heir-at-law. The facts (admitted on both sides) were these: The late Dr. John Swayne Beamish was in his lifetime possessed of considerable estates, and died in 1852. He had several sons, and the eldest was the Rev. Samuel Swayne Beamish, the defendant being the next brother of the latter. The Rev. S. S. Beamish was duly ordained a clergyman of the united churches of England and Ireland, and it appeared that on the 27th of November 1831, being then in holy orders, he went to the house of Anne Lyons, in the city of Cork, and there performed a ceremony of marriage between himself and Isabella Frazer. The form of solemnisation was that set out in the Book of Common Prayer, Mr. Beamish then declaring that he took the said Isabella Frazer to be his wedded wife, she taking him to be her wedded husband. The wedding ring was then placed upon her finger and the blessing pronounced. After the ceremony, it was stated that the marriage was consummated between the parties. No clergyman was present at the performance of the ceremony except the

Rev. Samuel Swayne Beamish himself, nor was any one present as a witness; but it was added in the special verdict that the performance of the ceremony was seen by Catherine Coffey, who, without the privy of the parties to the marriage, witnessed it from an adjoining yard, but did not hear what passed. It was further stated that Isabella Frazer was a member of the Church of England. It further appeared that the Rev. Samuel Swayne Beamish, who thus celebrated this marriage, died intestate on April 8, 1844; and the plaintiff, who is now a minor, Henry Albert Beamish, was his eldest son. On these facts the Court unanimously decided that the marriage was valid.

In a complaint against the proprietor of the Philharmonic rooms, in Newman-street, for allowing theatrical representations in a place not duly licenced, the magistrate has given a judgment, laying down the *Law respecting Theatrical Licences*.—The statute 6 and 7 Vic., which constitutes the Lord Chamberlain a censor of plays acted for hire, prohibits the "keeping" of any house, or other "place of public resort" for the public performance of stage plays without authority by letters patent or licence (see sec. 2), under a penalty of 20*l.* a day. By sec. 11, any person who shall "for hire," act or suffer to be acted any play "in any place," not patented or licensed as a theatre, is made liable to a penalty of 10*l.* a day, and by sec. 16, every actor shall be deemed to be acting for hire in every case in which any money, or other reward "shall be taken" directly or indirectly for the "admission" of any person into any theatre, to see any "stage play," and also in every case in which any stage play shall be acted in any house, room, or place in which distilled or fermented excisable liquors shall be sold. It had been proved that the defendant suffered a stage play to be acted in his house by amateurs in an apartment capable of containing 800 persons; that 800 persons were present; that the apartment usually devoted to concerts was fitted up with a stage and scenery; and that both directly and indirectly money was taken for admission to the performance, directly from two persons at the door, and indirectly by the distribution of tickets among the performers, who were to dispose of them as best they could for the benefit of one of their own body. The appointment of a censor of plays in the person of the Lord Chamberlain, and the prohibition of performance for hire except in licensed places, were intended as a safeguard for the morals of that numerous class of persons who can gain admission to a performance by payment, without interfering with those smaller domestic audiences which are assembled at an amateur play solely by the favour and at the expense of a gratuitous entertainer, and the character of actor "for hire" is made to depend, not on the question whether the amateur or professional, or the purpose to which the money received may be applied, but on the bare fact of the receipt of money, or money's worth, for admission. Every person who performs in a theatre into which admission is obtained by payment of money, is by this statute deemed an actor for hire, and every person who suffers acting for hire in an unlicensed place, is liable to a penalty. The defendant had suffered such acting in his unlicensed place, and consequently had incurred the penalty; but as his violation of the law had not been intentional, he was subjected only to a penalty of one shilling.

The doings of a *Female Scindler*, calling herself Alice Gray, have excited curiosity. Some weeks ago she was brought before the Wolverhampton police court on a charge of perjury. She had sworn that two boys had stolen her purse; but being recognised as a woman who had performed a similar feat at Birmingham, she was arrested, and several talbotype likenesses of her were taken from a daguerreotype likeness in her possession, and sent to several towns. The consequence was the arrival of letters identifying the woman as a systematic swindler. The earliest trace of her appears at Dublin, where, in 1819, calling herself Armstrong, she charged a man with robbing her, but failed; and having been twice convicted of felony in Ireland, she came to England. She passed herself off in Yorkshire and Derbyshire as a clergyman's daughter, and lived in clover by the cheat until discovered. She presented herself at Canterbury as a Roman Catholic persecuted by a Baptist

father. At Glasgow, Greenock, Bristol, Bath, London, she brought charges of robbery of her imaginary trunks and purses, against various persons; sometimes causing their conviction, nearly always obtaining money from the benevolent. In London she robbed a mistress, and afterwards pretended that her trunk had been stolen. Mr. Goodman of the Mansion-house, induced by her pitiful stories, paid her passage to Ireland. In Chester, in October last, she again brought charges of robbery, and obtained money to pay her passage to Birmingham. Her aliases were many: in Dublin, Armstrong; in Glasgow, Anastasia Carter; in Flintshire, Anastasia Huggard; in London, Mary Anne O'Brien, and Jane Turcan; at Wolverhampton, Alice Grey. When she was asked at Wolverhampton whether she had any question to put to the witnesses, she told the magistrates to "Go to hell;" and conducted herself with the utmost effrontery. Her real birth and parentage are doubtful. It has been stated that she is the daughter of humble parents at Limerick, named Huggard; that her father is dead, and her mother, a very honest woman, has remarried. Alice is really married to a soldier, Brazil, a private in the 68th regiment. While residing at home she behaved well. Another story is, that Alice Grey is Mary Atkinson, daughter of poor parents at Kendal, the mother still living. There she has committed various frauds. The Home Secretary has directed the release of the last victims of her perjury—the two boys imprisoned at Chester; and Alice herself is now in Stafford gaol, having been committed for trial at the assizes.

Among other agrarian outrages in Ireland, there has been an attempt to *Hang a Bailiff*. Alicia Brennan, Mary Hogan, Bridget Hogan, and Elizabeth Dowling, were brought at Ballylinan, the magistrates in Leinster, charged by Simon Hatch, a bailiff, with attempting to hang him. Hatch went to give notice of ejectment. He was surrounded by the women. In a twinkling the noose of a rope was slipped around his neck; and it was chucked so as to tighten it, evidently with the intention of strangulation. While struggling for his life, Betty Dowling pulled the legs from under him, upon which he fell to the ground, and while in that position efforts were made to tighten the rope about his neck. Mary Hogan then shouted out, "Bring me a stick till I knock the old vagabond's brains out; he'll be too long dying this way, the old blackguard." The next thing he felt was a succession of blows from the loaded butt-end of a whip. All the while Mrs. Brennan and Mary Hogan were chucking the rope that was about his neck, but which he prevented from suffocating him by keeping the noose from his throat with his two hands. The little girl, Biddy Hogan, got frightened at the treatment he received, and commenced screaming "Murder, murder," and then unlocked the door, when Hatch, by a desperate exertion, got on his feet and ran out, making off from the place with his life, with the halter about his neck. Mary Hogan followed him, leathering him with the whip during a portion of his retreat. Their worshippers liberated the little girl, and took informations against Mrs. Brennan, Mary Hogan, and Elizabeth Dowling. The parties were subsequently admitted to bail.

The report of the Commissioners on the *Conduct of the Police at the Hyde Park Sunday-trading Meeting in July last*, has been published, together with a letter thereon from Sir George Grey to Sir Richard Mayne. The Commissioners find that Superintendent Hughes, without sufficient grounds, ordered the Police to use their staves, and failed to control many excesses of the men under his command. They also prefer distinct charges of misconduct against seven policemen. Sir George Grey directs Sir Richard Mayne to reprimand Mr. Hughes, suspend or dismiss three out of the seven policemen, as they may think fit; and to prefer indictments against three others—Sir Richard Mayne is slightly censured, for having caused such a large number of persons to be detained in the small defective cells at Vine-street station; and Sir George Grey concurs with the Commissioners in declining to blame any one at the station for refusing to take bail.

A most melancholy *Boat Accident* has happened at Lerwick, in Shetland. George Irvine, a small farmer

and fisherman, was removing his effects from the Island of Skerries to Whalsey, where he was to reside in future. Three of his sons (very promising young men) took a boat laden with household stuff, and embarked for Whalsey. When about half way across, their tiny bark was overtaken by a sudden squall, which swamped the boat, drowning the three young men while in sight of their home.

A gentleman has been *Killed through Somnambulism*. Mr. Francis Bailey, residing in Victoria Road, Kensington, who was in the habit of walking in his sleep, opened his bed room window, got out, and fell a depth of from twenty to thirty feet. He was picked up by a police constable in a state of insensibility, and taken to St. George's Hospital. Every attention was paid him, but he expired shortly after his admission.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

SEVERAL *Fatal Railway Accidents* have occurred this month. On the 6th inst., Mr. Summerhays, station-master at Guildford, was superintending the work of shunting a coal-train on to a siding, and while thus engaged stood upon the narrow space between the up and down lines. The view of the pointsman was obstructed by a break van standing on the line, but, hearing a noise, he said to Mr. Summerhays, "I think the express is coming." The deceased replied, "Is it?" and moved, but the engine was upon him. The buffer struck his back, knocking him on the line, and the whole of the train passed over him, cutting him in two. He had held the appointment of station-master at Guildford for about twelve months, and had by his conduct gained the esteem of the inhabitants. He has left a wife and seven children.—A fatal accident occurred the same afternoon on the North Woolwich Railway. Near the Barking-road station a pathway communicating with Messrs. Mare's factory crosses the railway, and here two children were knocked down by a train. The elder child, between seven and eight years of age, had her head smashed to pieces, and the body was shockingly mutilated. The younger was carried on the line for upwards of fifty yards, and although dreadfully injured, was taken up alive. No hope, however, is entertained of its recovery. This makes the fifth or sixth accident which has happened at this spot.—A signal-man named Finch, in the employ of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, has been killed outside the New Bailey station, Salford. Watching a passenger train proceeding in one direction, he did not perceive an engine approaching in another, when he was knocked down by the buffer, and then dragged by the fire-box about a dozen yards to a hollow place where it left him, the wheels on one side passing over his feet and also over one arm. He died very soon afterwards.

An inquest has been held on the body of John Birmingham, an engine-driver who was *Killed on the Croydon and Wimbledon Railway*. A number of railway servants, and Lieutenant-Colonel Yolland, an Inspector of Railways under the Board of Trade, were examined. No one could account specifically for the accident; but it appeared most probable that the driver was going faster than is prudent on a new line, that his engine began to oscillate at a slight curve, and that this caused the driving-wheel to strike a rail in a weak part; the rail broke, half of it twined round the wheel, and the train was thrown off the line. The time-table fixed the speed of trains high, but drivers had been instructed not to attend to the table for a period, but to run "steadily and cautiously." This, like all new lines, required a good deal of repairing as soon as traffic began: between Mitcham and Wimbledon the rails were very shaky. Colonel Yolland had ordered a postponement of the opening of the line twice; but on account of want of signals and of a siding, not because the permanent way was bad. He thought the speed at the time of the disaster—twenty-seven miles an hour—too great; on a new line it ought not to exceed twenty miles. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death;" and recommended that until the road had become more con-

solidated the maximum speed should be only twenty miles an hour.

Mr. John Tremehere Johns, son of the Vicar of Crowan, Cornwall, a commoner of Pembroke College, Oxford, has been *Drowned* in the Isis. He and two other collegians were rowing in "outriggers" or "canoes"—dangerous boats, very liable to upset: in trying to turn his boat after some "larking" with one of his friends, Mr. Johns's boat upset, and he was plunged into deep water. No one was near who could swim, and an hour elapsed before the body was got out. A Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death;" and recommended to the University authorities some further precautionary measures for the rescue of persons who fall into the water, and for the early application of means of resuscitation to those apparently drowned, by having the house boat moveable instead of moored in the river.

During the *Fog* on the 15th and 16th inst. several fatal accidents took place in London. A man on board a lighter on the Thames, named Barrow, got fogbound near Deptford, and thinking that he was at the side of a raft of logs, stepped forward from his vessel, fell into the river, and was drowned. A man named Griffin missed his way, owing to the thickness of the fog, and fell a distance of nearly twenty feet into one of the dry docks of the New Surrey Canal, and was so fearfully hurt that he was taken to the hospital, where he remains without the least chance of recovery. A woman named Woney was also knocked down by a town cart. She was taken to the hospital, and died a few minutes after her admission. There were several fatal accidents in the docks. In the East India Dock, at Blackwall, two lives were lost. The first happened to a dock labourer, who missed his way, and walked off the North Quay into the water. The second accident befel a young man, fourth mate of the ship King Lear, loading at the east quay of the import dock for Bombay; he solicited the assistance of a custom-house officer named Ryan, to find his ship, when they both fell into the lock which connects the basin with the dock. The dockmaster and his foreman, who were near the spot at the time, groping their way through the dock, on hearing the splash hastened with the life-lines, and succeeded in rescuing the custom-house officer, but the mate of the ship was drowned. In the West India Docks on Thursday evening two seamen perished in endeavouring to get on board their ships. In the London Dock a custom-house officer named Connor lost his life by walking off the Brandy Quay into the water. Two railway accidents also occurred. One happened to a passenger train on the South Western Railway which was proceeding from Woking to London, when between Wimbledon and Kingston, owing to the fog, the engine driver was unable to see that a luggage train was on the line. The consequence was that the two trains came into collision, and two or three carriages were broken, but fortunately neither the passengers, guards, nor engine-drivers received any injury beyond being severely shaken by the concussion. Another accident also took place yesterday morning on the same line, to a plate-layer, who was at work. A great many robberies took place during the fog. Men, women, and children were waylaid by the thieves and robbed with impunity, it being impossible for any police officer, even if stationed within ten or twelve yards, to see the thieves.

A *Gallant Deed* has been done by a young Cambridge undergraduate. On the 5th inst., a party of students went down the river to Ely, and, there being a flood and strong current, it was late when they reached the locks on their return, eight miles from Cambridge. A young man named Clarke (being short-sighted, and it being dusk) stepped into the lock, and being unable to swim, sank several times before any one was able to assist him. At length an undergraduate of Sidney College, named Ellis, came up, and hearing from the cries, &c., what had occurred, although unable to see from the darkness, he plunged at once into the lock, though encumbered with his clothes and two heavy coats. Being an expert swimmer, after a severe struggle, and when nearly exhausted, he succeeded in dragging his almost lifeless companion to shore. Mr. Ellis is a native of Merionethshire, and is said to be as

distinguished for high scholastic attainments and good conduct as for intrepidity.

A frightful Accident occurred on the 20th inst. on the *Hull and Selby Railway*. Mrs. Bolding, wife of William Bolding, who resides in a cottage closely adjoining the railway, and between Hamerton and the Old Junction Station, had crossed the line to hang out some clothes. A train happened to come up at the time she was crossing the line for safety, when, owing to the noise of the train, and the whistle of the engine, she got confused, and did not observe a luggage train close upon her on the other line of rails until it was too late to escape. The engine of the goods train struck her on the head, just above her nose and mouth, and nearly took off one side of her head. Her brains were dashed out, and besprinkled the shutter of her own house. Of course death was instantaneous. No blame appears to have attached to the driver of the luggage train.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE Registrar-General's *Quarterly Return of Births, Deaths, and Marriages* for the last quarter exhibits 'a striking improvement in the general health on the corresponding quarter of 1854. The rate of mortality is lower than it was during the summer of 1853; and in some districts the decrease on previous years has been so striking that the district registrars have exercised their wits to account for it. This general result is the more satisfactory when we remember that "if all the deaths of British soldiers in the Crimea were added to the deaths in England, the number would be less by some 20,000, than the deaths registered in England during the three summer months of 1851." Indeed, the Registrar-General only confirms opinions long ago expressed, when he says that "more lives may be saved by sanitary arrangements at home every year, than have ever perished abroad in the years of our greatest losses in war." The gross addition to the population of England and Wales during the summer quarter, that is, the number of births, was 154,831; but from this we must deduct the number of deaths, 87,934, and the total of English emigrants, 15,530, giving a net increase of 51,370 on the quarter. The number of births is slightly above the average. Marriages have decreased, especially in the manufacturing and mining districts, while in some manufacturing districts they have increased; yet, on the whole, there are 1,935 fewer than in the corresponding quarter of 1854. This result is attributable partly to the increased price of provisions, and in some degree certainly to the war; for although soldiers are not marrying men, yet militia recruits are of just that class who furnish a contingent to the heavy total of improvident matrimonial arrangements. But no doubt the chief cause of the decrease is the comparatively high price of provisions. Corn had advanced from 5ls. in 1853, to 76s. 6d. a quarter in 1855; an increase of 48 per cent. Beef had increased from 5d. to 5½d. a pound—15 per cent., and mutton in the same proportion. On the other hand, potatoes had fallen in price from 117s. 6d. in 1853, to 71s. a ton in 1855—or 37 per cent. As the Registrar-General remarks, this fall in the price of an article so largely consumed by all classes, has no doubt greatly contributed to bring the rate of mortality below that of the summer of 1853. Another striking fact is, the decrease in emigration from the United Kingdom. In the summer quarter of 1852 no fewer than 109,236 persons emigrated; in 1855 the number has fallen to 44,698, or nearly the number who emigrated in 1817. The great cause of this decrease of mortality appears to be the improved sanitary condition of the country. "The decrease of mortality in some districts is striking," says Major Graham, "and the registrars in their notes endeavour to account for this evident fact. Some refer the improved health of the people to the fine weather; others to active employment in the harvest; others to the population, either in search of employment, or by drafting into the militia, and into the ranks of the army. In the mining district of Redruth the registrar conceives that 'the

frugality and temperance' promoted by the high price of provisions has been salutary; in other districts the benefits of improved health are connected with 'good wages and plentiful work'; in many places the utility of sanitary measures is admitted. The registrar of Pontesbury, who has registered no death for two months, 'can assign no cause.' One registrar makes the following statement:—"The deaths are below the average. In the township of Workington, containing a population of 6,122, the deaths during the last nine years have averaged forty-two quarterly; this quarter they are twenty-one. In the other nine townships, containing a population of 3,412, there have been only four deaths. Some ascribe the decreased mortality to Providence: others to improved sanitary arrangements." The Registrar-General observes before the last statement that the "people of this Kingdom will suffer no such embarrassment as the registrar of Workington has recorded if this result be realised, as they know that all effectual measures for the improvement of the human race receive the blessing, because they are the inspirations, of Divine Providence."

The *Sales in the Incumbered Estates Court* since the commencement of the present term, show a considerable advance in the Irish land market: 23 and 24 years' purchase on the net rental have now become quite ordinary rates; and lands in the counties of Kildare, Waterford, and Galway, have been sold at rates of from 26 years' to 30 years' purchase. Hitherto 20 years' purchase was considered an excellent price in Ireland; and it was some time before the general run of buyers could bring themselves to look on that as a secure standard of the value of Irish fee simple estates, emerging, as they were, from the gloomy period, when it was considered quite high enough to bid 9, or 10, or at the utmost, 12 years' purchase for the fee simple of lands devastated by famine and rack rents. Nor are the high prices confined to the Incumbered Estates Court. Competition for land is carried on with as much recklessness, as in the old times among the farmers; and it is to be feared that many of the lettings now made on a war scale of corn prices will be followed hereafter by insolvent and ejectment.

A meeting has been held at Hardwicke-court, near Gloucester, the object of which was the *Formation of a Reformatory Union for Criminals*. Among those present were—Sir J. Pakington, M.P., Sir Thomas Winnington, M.P., Mr. C. H. Bracebridge, the Rev. Sidney Turner, &c. The meeting took place at the residence of Mr. B. Baker, who, in conjunction with Mr. G. H. Bengough, established the first of the existing county institutions for the reformation of juvenile offenders. The discussion turned upon the best means of reforming criminals, the proper mode of preliminary punishment, and the plan to be adopted to secure those who had been inmates of reformatory institutions against a relapse into crime when they left them. The result of the meeting was the formation of a provisional committee intrusted with the task of organising a reformatory union, the vocation of which would be to consider and promote the best means of reforming criminals, to procure employment for them, and to restore them to society; also, to promote the practical training and preparation of efficient teachers for reformatory institutions. It was agreed that a general meeting of the society should be held in London next May.

The anniversary dinner of the *Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools Association* was held at the London Tavern on the 12th instant, Lord John Russell in the chair. In proposing the "Army and Navy," Lord John uttered a warm eulogy on their bravery, and still more, their fortitude. He expressed regret for Lord Raglan's loss; but he found consolation in the fact, that "although Lord Raglan is no more, the example of men like him will not be lost, but will be preserved to future generations, to show in what a school England had brought up her soldiers, and what pupils Wellington had left." In proposing prosperity to the institution he gave some account of its origin. It was projected in 1853, and within six weeks the young men interested had subscribed 3000*l.* towards its funds; and the employers following this good example, subscribed 4000*l.* more. In a short time the fund rose to 10,000*l.*; and

now the society has £9000*l.* in the funds, an income of £1000*l.* a-year, and a balance at the bank of £66*l.* Fifteen children have participated in the benefits of the institution; and as ground for a building has been taken on a long lease, the society is established on a permanent basis. The subscriptions of the evening amounted to £170*l.*

The first of the winter course of lectures to the *Young Men's Christian Association* was delivered at Exeter Hall on the evening of the 14th instant, by Lord John Russell. The Hall was crowded. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided; Lord Panmure, Lord Wodehouse, Lord de Mauley, Mr. Vernon Smith, and many eminent clergymen and laymen were among the audience. The subject of the lecture was "The Obstacles which have retarded Moral and Political Progress." Lord John Russell was enthusiastically cheered on his entrance, and during the lecture; and at its close a vote of thanks to him was carried by acclamation.

A large public meeting was held at Bristol on the 15th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the carrying on and extension of the *Kingswood Reformatory School* in the neighbourhood of that city. Mr. W. Miles, M.P., presided, and there were present many of the most distinguished gentry and clergy of Somersetshire, and the neighbouring counties. In the course of the proceedings, which were very interesting, the chairman gave an account of the state of juvenile crime in this country, and the existing legislation applicable to it. He did not think, he said, that it was generally known what an immense number of children came before the criminal tribunals annually, nor the very large proportion of recommitments, and, up to the present period, the little that had been done towards their reformation. After committal, it was hopeless to think of any good being effected, for he was sorry to say, from an experience of twenty-one years, during which he had filled the chair at the Somerset Quarter Sessions, that a child generally came out worse than it went into prison. He found, from the official returns, taking the years 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, and 1851, that, under the age of 12, 1,023 males and 166 females were tried at assizes and sessions; between 12 and under 14, 2,414 males, and 437 females were tried at assizes and sessions; and between 14 and under 17, 11,294 males and 2,258 females were tried at assizes and sessions; making a grand total of 17,622. During the same period there were summarily convicted 7,633 under 12; 12,828 between 12 and under 14; and 35,091 between 14 and 17; making a grand total of those convicted, tried at sessions and assizes and by summary jurisdiction, of 73,174 children between the ages of 12 and 17, who had passed through our gaols and houses of correction during the time specified, giving an annual average of 12,190. It was only last session that he had moved for a return showing the number of reformatory schools at present in existence throughout England, and the number of scholars they were capable of maintaining. The only school that was not included in that Return was that of Redhill, and he was sorry to say that the whole number of certified schools was only capable of maintaining 420 children. Two laws had recently been passed upon the subject of reformatory schools, and now, not only were judges of assizes and chairmen of quarter sessions enabled, when the prisoner was under 16 years of age, upon his conviction, to sentence him to a short period of imprisonment, but they could, if they pleased, after that, sentence him to a detention at a reformatory school; and so much had the legislature thought it necessary that this detention should be of some duration that the lowest term for which a child could be sentenced was a couple of years. Here, then, with this extraordinary number of convicts (and there was no reason to suppose that it was at all decreasing), with convictions amounting to upwards of 12,000 per annum, and taking Redhill to be capable of holding 200, they now had only room for 620 children in these reformatory establishments. Now let them look at the number of recommitments of these children which took place. He found the total number of recommitments in 1849 to be—males, 1,866; females, 259—total, 2,125. Twice—males, 821; females, 123—total, 944. Thrice—males, 423; females 61—total, 484. Four or more times—

males, 670; females, 91—total, 761. Here, then, was a grand total of males and females recommitted, some once, some twice, some thrice, and some four or even more times, of 4,314. He had thus given a sketch of the state of juvenile crime in this country, and he was sorry to add that the government had not carried out the views of their committee upon this subject. The committee recommended the adoption of three classes of schools—namely, one a highly penal school, which we had already at Parkhurst, and which, in his opinion, if there were plenty of others, would be quite sufficient in the first class. In addition, they recommended a second class of schools, which should take all those children tried at assize and sessions, and which should be supported partly by government and partly by rates—thus going upon the principle that where the crime was committed there the county should pay for the commission of that crime. He now came to the third class of schools, and thither the committee wished that the very young, who had committed perhaps venial offences, should be sent; and that these schools should be left to private individuals, with some slight assistance from government. The meeting would, therefore, see that the recommendations of the committee had not been carried out. They certainly had Parkhurst, and a few schools of the third class, but they were utterly deficient as to the second. He did hope and trust that government might yet be induced to take the matter up, and that hereafter they would be able to unite as counties, and to have proper reformatory schools under good masters and proper superintendence. From a report read to the meeting, it appeared that the Kingswood Reformatory School was founded by Miss Carpenter and Mr. Russell Scott, in 1852, as an asylum for young persons who either had become amenable to the law, or were evidently about to fall into crime. During the first sixteen months there were received twenty-seven boys and thirteen girls. Four of the girls being sent by the Secretary of State under conditional pardon, but beyond those there was, till the middle of 1854, no power of detention. As it was deemed undesirable to have boys and girls in the same school, the girls, in November, 1854, were removed to a school opened by Miss Carpenter, at the Red Lodge, and in which there were now twenty-two girls; the Kingswood school being increased to its present number, forty boys (the most that the present staff and funds will admit of). Almost all the boys had been arraigned at the criminal bar. The premises consisted of a building in a healthy locality, capable of lodging 120 or more boys, with large play-ground, and ten or eleven acres of land; forty boys were engaged in field labour and gardening under a gardener, and at shoemaking and tailoring, and they were instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and scriptural knowledge. The annual expense of forty boys was not less than about 950*l.* The income was, from the government, 575*l.*; from annual subscriptions, about 200*l.*; and leaving a deficiency of about 200*l.* Many donations, &c., were derived from persons at a distance, and the opening of schools in other districts would probably diminish the amount. The object of the present appeal was not to set up a school, for it existed; not to pay off a deficiency, for it had been supplied by Mr. Scott; it was with a view to future good. A most important want had been most unexpectedly and generously supplied by Mr. G. W. Bengough, widely known as coadjutor with Mr. Baker in the Reformatory Institution at Hardwicke Court, who had volunteered to reside near Kingswood, and superintend the school. Resolutions in favour of the extension of the Kingswood School were unanimously passed, and a committee was appointed. Donations to a considerable amount were received before the meeting broke up.

A meeting of the magistracy, gentry, and clergy of Suffolk, was held on the 19th inst. at Stowmarket, with a view to the establishment of an *Institution for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders* in the county of Suffolk. Among those present were Lord Henniker, Sir W. Middleton, Sir E. Kerrison, M.P.; Sir F. Kelly, M.P.; Mr. J. C. Cobbold, M.P.; Mr. H. J. P. Oakes, M.P., &c. Sir W. Middleton presided. Resolutions were passed in accordance with the object of the meeting, and a committee was appointed to superintend the

management of the Reformatory School. A donation list was opened, and among the names entered were those of Sir W. Middleton, for 50*l.*; Lord Hemiker, 50*l.*; Sir E. Kerrison, 50*l.*; Mr. T. B. Western, 30*l.*; Mr. J. Berners, 50*l.*; Mr. H. Wilson, 50*l.*; Mr. W. Gordon, 20*l.*; several for 10*l.* and 5*l.*, with an annual donation of 150*l.* for three years, by Mr. John Fitzgerald, exclusively for the salary of a well-qualified master.

The *Working Men's College* numbers at this time 250 students, being a marked increase upon the last term. The attendance is remarkably steady, and many of the young men, and especially those in the drawing class, are displaying abilities of a high order. A great desire to learn French manifests itself among the students, seventy of whom attend the class in which that language is taught. Although the fees of the Working Men's College are all but nominal, the institution is nearly self-supporting. The public was some time since informed that a similar college had been opened at Cambridge, and will now learn with satisfaction that there is every probability that one will shortly be available to the working classes of Oxford.

Government has ordered the sum of 1000*l.* to be placed at the disposal of the Royal Society, this year, for *Scientific Purposes*, and has informed the council of the society that a similar sum will be annually included in the miscellaneous estimates for the advancement of science.

The foundation-stone of the new building at Birmingham for the *Birmingham and Midland Counties Institute* was laid on the 22nd inst., by Prince Albert, in the presence of an immense concourse of people. His Royal Highness delivered an address full of enlightened sentiments, which was received with great enthusiasm.

The Reverend Dr. Booth delivered an able lecture on the 20th, to the members of the *Wandsworth Literary and Scientific Institution*, "on the Education of Females of the Industrial Class." The substance of his lecture was, that as the intellectual progress of a boy depends upon his school-teaching, and his moral education on the habits of his parents, especially of his mother, the education of young women should be such as would fit them for matronly and domestic duties, and enable them to make comfortable homes. They should not be taught simply to sew, but the common things and common arts of life; they should be taught to cook, to wash, to light fires and sweep rooms. He told the ladies there present, that if any of them had the means and the will to do good in their generation, they could do nothing better than establish a school for the education of their young townswomen in common things. At the close of the lecture, Mr. Edwin Chadwick, expressing more trust in the efficacy of school-teaching than Dr. Booth, concurred in his conclusions. Mr. Charles Pearson and Dr. Longstaffe also addressed the meeting, concurring with Dr. Booth.

A *Strike for Wages* has been begun at Manchester. On the 21st inst. nearly 3400 workmen had struck, and the number has since increased. The question between the masters and the men has been temperately discussed, and it is hoped may be amicably adjusted.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Prince of Wales attained the age of fourteen on the 7th inst. His Royal Highness's birthday was kept with the usual loyal demonstrations.

The Earl of Stamford and Warrington has sent a contribution of 500*l.* to the Patriotic Fund, and a donation of 100*l.* to the building fund of the Midland Institute. His lordship has also forwarded a donation of 50*l.* to the latter Institute, from the Countess of Stamford.

Lady Cranworth has been appointed to succeed Lady Canning as the Directress-in-chief of the establishment for supplying the army in the East with nurses.

Lord Montgomerie, eldest son of the Earl of Eglinton, has entered the Royal navy as a cadet.

At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on the 12th inst., Sir Roderick Murchison gave a description of the memorial lately erected to Lieutenant *Bellot* at Greenwich. This was a compliment never yet

accorded to a British officer. The whole amount of the subscription was about 2200*l.*; of which about 500*l.* had been expended in erecting a beautiful granite obelisk to the memory of the gallant Lieutenant, and the remainder would be devoted to his indigent sisters, who have also been provided for by the Emperor Napoleon.

The Queen has conferred on Captain Robert Macleod of the Royal Navy, the honour of knighthood.

The subscription entered into two years ago for the purpose of honouring the memory of the intrepid and amiable French officer *Bellot* has been closed, and amounts to upwards of 2200*l.*, of which sum nearly 500*l.* has been expended in erecting a monument of granite; the remainder, according to the wish of the subscribers, being in the course of division among five young sisters of his. The site of the monument is the quay of Greenwich Hospital. It is an obelisk, about thirty-five feet high, of red granite, designed by Mr. P. Hardwick, R.A., and executed by Messrs. McDonald of Aberdeen.

The reappearance of Sir Colin Campbell at the United Service Club created a sensation amongst those who were present. Many of his old companions in arms in the Peninsular and Indian campaigns congregated about the gallant veteran, and welcomed his return with cordial enthusiasm.

M. Thiers has personally presented the twelfth volume of his "*Histoire du Consulat et de l'Empire*" to Prince Jerome, ex-King of Westphalia, brother of Napoleon I.

The first lecture in the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution for the session 1855-6 was delivered on the 6th inst. by Dr. Southwood Smith. The lecture was the first of a course of two, "On Epidemics and their Relation to Climate and Civilisation."

Marshal Radetsky reached his 90th year on the 4th inst.

Mr. William Henry Barber, who was transported on account of his alleged complicity in the well-known forgery of Fletcher, and afterwards received a free pardon, has at length been *Replaced on the Rolls as an Attorney*. This act of tardy justice was done by the Court of Queen's Bench on the 21st instant, when Lord Campbell delivered judgment on Mr. Barber's application in the following terms:—In the matter of Mr. Barber, who has applied to be re-admitted as an attorney of this court, we have long and anxiously considered all the evidence before us, and the court has arrived at this conclusion, that the evidence to establish his connivance in the frauds of Fletcher alleged against him is too doubtful for us to continue his exclusion any longer, and, therefore, the court orders the rule for his re-admission to be made absolute.

A gratifying instance has occurred of *Honesty in a Cabman*. One of Messrs. Twinings' clerks hailed a Hansom cab near the Bank of England, and having placed in it a large quantity of coin, drove direct to the Strand, where he himself superintended its removal into the bankinghouse. The cabman drove off and went on to the stand in St. Clement's Churchyard, whence he was shortly hailed to take up in Norfolk-street. A shower coming on, the driver took his mackintosh out of the cab, and in doing so found a heavy bag of coin, which it instantly occurred to him must belong to Messrs. Twinings. After depositing his Norfolk-street fare at a railway station, the honest fellow drove back to the Strand and handed his "treasure trove" over Messrs. Twinings' counter. The bag, which contained 300 half sovereigns, had been given up for lost, and the driver was promptly rewarded with a 10*l.* note—afterwards increased to 20*l.* for his honesty.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LENNARD BARRETT TYLER, commanding the 42nd Regiment, died at Balaklava on the 24th ult. of his wounds received when leading his regiment to the assault of the Redan on the 8th Sept. Colonel Tyler was only in his 36th year.

JOSEPH STOCK, LLD., Judge of the Irish Admiralty Court, died in Dublin on the 30th ult., in his 69th year.

LEUT.-GENERAL FREDERICK WILLIAM BUTLER, formerly of the Coldstream Guards, died on the 8th instant at his

lodgings in Bury-street, St. James's, after a protracted illness, at the age of 82.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GRAHAM, of the 1st Regiment of Foot, died at Haslar on the 2nd inst., aged 46. He left his sick-bed to lead on his men to the assault of the Redan, at Sebastopol, on the 8th of September, by which exposure he incurred illness which has terminated fatally. He had seen 30 years full pay service in the army.

THOMAS WILDE, Baron Truro, died on the 11th inst. at his house in Eaton-square, in his 73rd year.

SIR RICHARD SUTTON, Bart., died suddenly, on the 14th inst. at Cambridge House, Piccadilly, aged 57.

MAJOR-GENERAL FREDERICK MARKHAM, C.B., died on the 21st inst. in his 50th year. He had recently returned from his command in the Crimea, having been compelled to relinquish it by extreme bad health.

SIR W. PILKINGTON, BART., who succeeded to his title and estates only in February last, died on the 19th inst.

M. PAILLET, one of the most distinguished members of the Parisian bar, died on the 18th inst., of apoplexy.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE intelligence from India is interesting. On the 11th of September, Mr. H. V. Conolly, Collector of Malabar and Provisional Member of Council at Madras, was murdered on the 11th by a party of Moplahs. On the evening of that day, he was seated with his wife in the verandah of his house, near Calicut when five men, armed with the long and heavy Moplah knife, rushed in and commenced a violent attack upon him. Mrs. Conolly ran into the house, calling upon the servants to come to the assistance of their master. Two of them, who were near the spot, immediately came forward, but were kept at bay by the assassins, who cut off the hand or several of the fingers of one, and inflicted a severe wound upon the other. Then, their work accomplished, the murderers disappeared in the darkness. Mr. Conolly was carried into the house, and medical assistance sent for from Calicut, but before it could reach him he had expired. His injuries were the most frightful. No fewer than twenty-seven wounds were found upon his body, which was almost literally hacked to pieces. His poor wife sat by his side covered with the blood of the husband she had seen murdered before her eyes, stunned and tearless under the weight of a blow so sudden and so terrible. Immediately on hearing of the murder, the authorities of Calicut offered large rewards for the apprehension of the assassins, and held parties of troops in readiness in case this act of violence should be the prelude to a general Moplah rising. The murderers were first heard of at a place called Tamberchery, where they occupied a large house after wounding and expelling the inhabitants, with the apparent intention of awaiting the police or soldiers, and selling their lives as dearly as possible. A party of the 74th Highlanders were despatched to the spot, but before they reached it the Moplahs had decamped. On the 17th, however, the Highlanders fell in with them at Munjerry, when, as on previous occasions of a similar nature, it was found impossible to take these desperate fanatics alive, and they fell to a man by the bayonets of the soldiers. One of the 74th was killed in the affray, and another badly wounded by a cut in the throat, dealt him by a Moplah whom he had already transfixed with his bayonet. With the death of the murderers is probably lost the secret of the murder. Mr. Conolly was an able and energetic magistrate, and had lately succeeded in rooting out of the country a most dangerous vagabond belonging to the Moplah tribe. He had also been actively employed in carrying out the act for disarming that part of the population of his collectorate. These proceedings no doubt made him obnoxious to the Moplahs, and his murder may have been the result of the feelings so excited; and, indeed, it is said that he received a warning of his impending fate.

Lieut-Col. Celin Mackenzie, one of the commanders of the Nizam's cavalry, has been nearly murdered at Bolarum. He had interfered with a mob, who, in celebrating the Mohurrum, had approached his compound contrary to orders; and the mob, headed by three cavalry soldiers, set upon him, and left him for dead. But the last accounts of him were hopeful; and the cavalry had surrendered the troopers. The same mob who attacked him also assaulted a clergyman and two ladies returning from an evening drive, who narrowly escaped with their lives, both the ladies being wounded. The following letter from one of the ladies, the clergyman's wife, giving a graphic account of their marvellous escape has been published:—“ Secunderabad, Sept. 26.—On Friday evening we called for Mrs. C——

and her daughter. Mrs. C—— is sister of the Brigadier. R—— and Miss C—— were on the box-seat; R—— driving, and Mrs. C—— and myself inside the carriage. We heard no noise in the place except the usual tom-tomming, music always allowed at those times. We took our drive all round the course; met the Resident's carriage, and several others. All continued quiet until we came to Brigadier Mackenzie's gate. From this gate a great number of the Nizam's cavalry, called ‘Jouars,’ in undress, but with their swords and muskets, were issuing, and the other side of the road was lined with soldiers from the lines. To see these men in the public road is contrary to orders; they are not allowed to go out of a certain line marked for their processions. However, we did not think about it, but supposed they had only gone to make some request of the Brigadier. R—— walked the horses to give the soldiers time to get out of the way and allow us to pass. The first thing which attracted my attention was a man dressed in a long red coat, giving their war-cry, and going one step back and another forward. It resounded on all sides. They then deliberately waited until the carriage was in the middle of the multitude, and then made a blow with a sword at Mrs. C—— (fortunately for us they were not mounted, or I should not now be alive to tell the tale); it cut her, but not deeply, in the side of the head. I said to R——, ‘Now drive for your life—it's our only chance.’ He did so, and away went the horses at such a rate! and cut and dash went the swords and butt ends of the muskets. Most providentially the muskets were not loaded, having been discharged in the Brigadier's compound before we came up. They tried so hard to cut me over the back of the carriage that I moved to a little seat under the box, facing Mrs. C——. I was afraid she would have fainted from loss of blood, as it ran quickly from her head. Men waited for us down the road on either side, with drawn swords and muskets to dash at us. One of them cut R——'s coat down the back. The horses flew, and the cut did not enter the flesh, owing to their speed. Another man waited about three yards in advance of us, and took deliberate aim with a sword. R—— saw him, and, as he came near, raised his arm to give another stroke to the horses, and the sword passed under, cutting a quarter of an inch deep into the iron bar round the seat. Another made an upward cut at him, and missed his aim, owing to our speed. The sword came in contact with the dashboard in front, and tore the leather off the right side. Miss C—— was struck on the back and had cuts in her silk cape, but was otherwise unhurt. They also waited at my side of the carriage. A man made a blow at me with the end of his musket, and hurt me not a little. Another attacked me with his sword; it cut right through my clothes like a razor, and made a wound about three inches long and one inch deep exactly in the spot where I had received the blow. I did not feel it at the time, for the sword was too sharp; speed and the little iron bar round the seat saved me. Fortunately for us, Captain M—— and his wife were driving after us, so that they turned back to attack them. I should tell you they made a desperate effort to cut the reins, but only succeeded in destroying the bearing-reins.”

The insurrection of the Santals is not, as was believed, suppressed. They still continue traversing the country, and are every here and there committing acts of depredation and violence. The panic that they at the outset occasioned was such that the people fled from the

country, and there still continues much difficulty in getting the preservers of order to withstand or secure the insurgents. The insurrection has long lost its character as a civil war, and at present continues simply as a nuisance, mainly alarming from the difficulty of getting it finally extinguished.—Serious disturbances continue every now and then to break out in the Nizam's dominions. Information having been received that a party of Rohilla robbers were plundering the country to the north of Hyderabad, a force consisting of 250 men of the Nizam's cavalry, under Captain Doria, a wing of the 4th Nizam's infantry, and a couple of howitzers, started on the 6th of September against the enemy, whom they defeated, killing and taking prisoners the greatest number of them.

Religious disturbances have once more made their appearance in Oude. In February last, a Hindoo renegade, who had become Mahomedan, spread about a statement that the Hindoos had defiled and destroyed a temple in Hunnoomanghurree. Contriving to collect a considerable force, he established his head-quarters in the neighbourhood; a violent conflict ensued, in which the Hindoos proved victorious; some seventy or eighty of the Mahomedans cut their way through and found refuge in one of their own temples near by. The Hindoos attacked the temple, and, after repeated repulses with heavy loss of life, succeeded in capturing it, and put the whole of their enemies to the sword. This was but the commencement of the strife, and both parties are now so violently inflamed that it is impossible to foresee the result.

The *Cape of Good Hope* papers, received down to the 4th of August, speak of increasing prosperity and internal improvement. Sir George Grey had left Cape Town on an extensive tour, embracing the settlements, European and native, beyond the Orange River, Natal, Caffreland, and British Cafraria.

Among the subjects attracting attention was the increase of sugar-cultivation at Natal, the success of which was considered certain; and the capabilities of the Cape for the production of dried fruits, olive oil, and other minor articles of commerce. The exports of wool, which in 1855 amounted to 215,808 pounds, was expected to exceed nine millions of pounds in 1855.

By the *West India* mail we learn that the islands generally are healthy, and that the weather has been favourable to the planter. The Jamaica legislature met on the 16th of October, when the session was opened in a speech from his Excellency the Governor. He congratulated the several branches upon the complete success of the financial measures of the previous session. "The revenue actually raised within the financial year had been sufficient to cover the whole expenditure authorised, so that the receiver-general had been enabled, for the first time for six years past, to pay in full all claims against the treasury for the October quarter, upon presentation." The governor proposed to effect reductions in the estimates for the clergy and judges.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

SINCE our last month's publication additional details of much interest, respecting the defeat of the Russians by the Turkish garrison of the city of Kars, in Asiatic Turkey, have been received. The following is the official account of that brilliant victory, in a despatch to the Earl of Clarendon, from Major-General Williams, her Majesty's commissioner with the Turkish army in Asia:—

"Kars, Oct. 3.—My Lord,—I had the honour to announce to your lordship, on the evening of the 29th ult., the glorious victory gained on the morning of that day by the Sultan's troops, on the heights above Kars, over the Russian army, commanded by General Mouravieff, and I now beg to furnish your lordship with the principal incidents of that sanguinary battle. Your lordship will, perhaps, recollect that in my despatch, No. 123, of the 28th of June, I stated that the Russian general, after his second demonstration against the southern face of our intrenchments, which is flanked by Hafiz Pacha Tabia, and Kanli Tabia, marched south, and established his camp at Bugah Tikme, a village situated about four miles from Kars. Knowing that General Mouravieff served in the army which took Kars in 1828, I conceived his last manoeuvre to be preparatory either to a reconnaissance, or an attack upon the heights of Tahmash, from whence the Russians successfully pushed their approaches in the year before cited. Whilst, therefore, the enemy's columns were in march towards Bugah Tikme, I visited those heights with Lieutenant-Colonel Lake, and after studying the ground, decided upon the nature of the works to be thrown up; these were planned and executed by Lieutenant-Colonel Lake, with great skill and energy. I enclose, for your lordship's information, a plan made by that officer of the town and its neighbouring heights which are situated on the opposite side of the river of Kars Chai, over which three temporary bridges had been thrown to keep up our communications. As all verbal descriptions or bird's-eye view of ground convey but an imperfect idea of any locality, I beg to enclose a sketch, made by Mr. Churchill, which will, I trust, tend to elucidate my description. Your lordship will observe that whilst our camp and magazine in the town were rendered as safe as circumstances would allow, the hills above Kars commanded all, and were therefore the keys of our position. The intrenchment

of Tahmash, being those nearest the enemy's camp, demanded the greatest vigilance from all entrusted in their defence; General Kmety, a gallant Hungarian officer, commanded the division which occupied this eminence; he was assisted by Major-General Hussein Pasha, and my aide-de camp, Major Teesdale, who has acted as his chief of the staff. Throughout the investment, which has now lasted four months, the troops in all the redoubts and intrenchments, have kept a vigilant look-out during the night, and, at their appointed stations, stood to their arms long before day-dawn. In my despatch, No. 155, of the 29th ult., I informed your lordship of the arrival of the news of the fall of Sebastopol, and of the landing of Omar Pasha at Batoum. I also acquainted your lordship with the fact, that the Russian general was engaged in sending off immense trains of heavy baggage into Georgia, and showing every indication of a speedy retreat; this nowise threw us off our guard, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lake was directed to strengthen many points in our extensive and undermanned lines, and amongst other works the tabia bearing my name was constructed. At four o'clock on the eventful morning of the 29th the enemy's columns were reported to be advancing on the Tahmash front. They were three in number, supported by twenty-four guns; the first or right column being directed on Tahmash Tabia, the second on Yuksek Tabia, and the third on the breastwork called Rennison Lines. As soon as the first gun announced the approach of the enemy, the reserves were put under arms in a central position, from which succours could be despatched, either to Tahmash or the English Lines. The mist and imperfect light of the dawning day induced the enemy to believe that he was about to surprise us; he advanced with his usual steadiness and intrepidity; but, on getting within range, he was saluted with a crushing fire of artillery from all points of the line. This unexpected reception, however, only drew forth loud hurrahs from the Russian infantry as it rushed up the hill on the redoubts and breastworks. These works poured forth fire of musketry and rifles, which told with fearful effect on the close columns of attack, more especially on the left one, which, being opposed by a battalion of 150 Chasseurs, armed with Minie rifles, was, after long and desperate fighting, completely broken, and sent headlong down the hill, leaving 850 dead on the

field, besides those carried off by their comrades. The central column precipitated itself on the redoubts of Tahmasb and Yuksek Tabias, where desperate fighting occurred and lasted for several hours, the enemy being repulsed in all his attempts to enter the closed redoubts, which mutually flanked each other with their artillery and musketry, and made terrible havoc in the ranks of the assailants; and it was here that Generals Kmety and Hussain Pasha, together with Major Teesdale, so conspicuously displayed their courage and conduct. Lieutenant-General Kerken Pasha also repaired to the scene of desperate strife to encourage the troops, and was wounded in the shoulder, and had two horses killed under him. The right column of the Russian infantry, supported by a battery, eventually turned the left flank of the entrenched wing of the Tahmasb defences, and whilst the Russian battery opened in the rear of the closed redoubt at its salient angle, their infantry penetrated considerably behind our position. Observing the commencement of this movement, and anticipating its consequences, Lieutenant-Colonel Lake, who had taken the direction of affairs in the English Tabias, was instructed to send a battalion from Fort Lake to the assistance of the defenders of Tahmasb, and at the same time two battalions of the reserves were moved across the flying bridge and upon the rocky height of Laz Jeppe Tabia. These three reinforcing columns met each other at that point, and, being hidden from the enemy by the rocky nature of the ground, confronted him at a most opportune moment; they deployed, opened their fire, which stopped and soon drove back the enemy's reserves, which were then vigorously charged with the bayonet, at the same moment that General Kmety and Major Teesdale issued from the redoubts at Tahmasb and charged the assailants. The whole of that portion of the enemy's infantry and artillery now broke and fled down the heights under a murderous fire of musketry; this occurred at half-past 11, after a combat of seven hours. In this part of the field the enemy had, including his reserves, 22 battalions of infantry, a large force of dragoons and Cossacks, together with 32 guns. Whilst this struggle, which I have attempted to describe, was occurring at Tahmasb, a most severe combat was going on at the eastern position of the line, called the English Tabias. About half-past 5 o'clock a.m. a Russian column, consisting of eight battalions of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, and 16 guns advanced from the valley of Tehakmak, and assaulted those small redoubts, which, after as stout a resistance as their unavoidably feeble garrison could oppose, fell into their hands, together with the connecting breastworks, defended by townsmen and mountaineers from Lazistan, whose clanish flags, according to their custom, were planted before them, on the epaulments, and consequently fell into the enemy's hands; but ere the firing had begun in this portion of the field, Captain Thompson had received orders to send a battalion of infantry from each of the heights of Karadagh and Arab Tabia to reinforce the English Lines. This reinforcement descended the deep gulch through which flows the Kars river, passed a bridge, recently thrown across it, and ascended the opposite precipitous bank by a zigzag path which led into the line of works named by the Turks Ingliz Tabias (the English Batteries). Their arrival was as opportune as that of the reserves directed toward Tahmasb, which I have had the honour to describe in the former part of this despatch; these battalions, joined to those directed by Lieutenant-Colonel Lake, gallantly attacked and drove the Russians out of the redoubts at the point of the bayonet, after the artillery of the enemy had been driven from those lines by the cross fire directed from Fort Lake and from Arab Tabia and Karadagh, by Capt. Thompson. This officer deserves my best thanks for having seized a favourable moment to remove a heavy gun from the eastern to the western extremity of Karadagh, and with it inflicted severe loss on the enemy. After the Russian infantry was driven from the English redoubts, the whole of their attacking force of cavalry, artillery, and infantry retreated with precipitation, plying with round shot from all the batteries bearing on their columns. During their temporary success, however, the enemy captured

two of our light guns, which the mortality amongst our horses from famine prevented our withdrawing from their advanced positions. He also carried off his wounded, and many of his dead; yet he left 363 of the latter within and in front of these intrenchments: and his retreat occurred at least an hour before the assailants of Tahmasb were put to flight. During this combat, which lasted nearly seven hours, the Turkish infantry, as well as artillery, fought with the most determined courage; and when it is recollect that they had worked on their entrenchments, and guarded them by night, throughout a period extending to nearly four months, I think your lordship will admit that they have proved themselves worthy of the admiration of Europe, and established an undoubted claim to be placed amongst the most distinguished of its troops. With regard to the enemy, as long as there was a chance of success he persevered with undaunted courage, and the Russian officers displayed the greatest gallantry. Their loss was immense; they left on the field more than 5,000 dead, which it took the Turkish infantry four days to bury. Their wounded and prisoners in our possession amount to 160, whilst those who were carried off are said to be upwards of 7,000. As the garrison was afflicted with cholera, and I was apprehensive of a great increase of the malady, should this melancholy duty of the burial of the dead be not pushed forward with every possible vigour by our fatigued and jaded soldiers, I daily visited the scene of strife to encourage them in their almost endless task; and I can assure your lordship that the whole battle-field presented a scene which is more easy to conceive than to describe, being literally covered with the enemy's dead and dying. The Turkish dead and wounded were removed on the night of the battle. The dead numbered 362, the wounded 631. The townspeople, who also fought with spirit, lost 101 men. His Excellency the Mushir has reported to his government those officers who particularly distinguished themselves—a difficult task in an army which has shown such desperate valour throughout the unusual period of seven hours of uninterrupted combat.

I have, &c., W. F. WILLIAMS."

The battle is thus described by the private correspondent of the *Times*:—“On the morning of the 29th, or rather at midnight, the distant rumble of guns was heard by the sentries on Tahmasb, and General Kmety at once called all the troops in that direction under arms, but after this a long interval of silence ensued. About an hour before the dawn sundry suspicious noises were again heard, and at last, by the feeble light of the crescent moon, a large dark moving mass was observed advancing towards a battery in which was Captain Teesdale, a most gallant young soldier; at once the guns were opened on the column, when a loud hurrah arose from enemies unseen, who had almost surrounded the whole of the north-west works. All suspense was now at an end, the corps of Turks in this position found themselves assaulted in front and flank, while a column was moving round their rear. It was still nearly dark, so that in this, the commencement of the action, very little of our powerful artillery could come into play. The Russian columns, advancing with wonderful steadiness, were met by volleys of musketry at point-blank range, directed from flanking breastworks, while from time to time Teesdale's guns poured out murderous grape. At the extreme point of Tahmasb the enemy actually penetrated into the batteries and were at once bayoneted. While this murderous struggle was going on, a vigorous artillery fire from the enemy was kept up on Kanli Tabia, in the plain, far removed from the real point of danger. This, of course, was but a feint. Fort Lake, the key of the whole position on the north, and the English batteries immediately behind the town, which I have mentioned, were now attacked, and the latter being defended by a very weak force, chiefly irregulars, were carried by assault, and the enemy then began shelling the town. But daylight now showed clearly each position and movement of the enemy. General Williams despatched two or three companies of Rifles to the English Tabias under one of our best officers, Kadir Bey, and these, with troops from Fort Lake, charged the Russians, and fairly drove them out of the

batteries at the point of the bayonet; meantime, from Karadagh, Captain Thompson had, with the eye of a General, albeit a young one, despatched one or two companies over the gorge and the river, who took up a flanking position in the midst of rocks commanding these English Tabias, and by immense exertions he also got some heavy guns to bear on them, so that he soon changed the Russian retreat into a rabble rout. Some Russian cavalry made a gallant charge here, but soon came to grief among some *trous de loup*. Meanwhile the battle was raging at the original point of attack; the rolling fire of musketry was incessant, and the thunder of the artillery from the numerous batteries never ceased for a moment. At one time, and only once, some little symptoms of giving way was observed, but no sooner observed than the fresh fire from reinforcements despatched by General Williams and Colonel Lake, and ably handled by General Kmety, changed the backward into a forward movement; the loud hurrahs of the Russian hosts were soon mingled with the yells of the Turks, who fought with the ferocity of tigers, charging repeatedly with the bayonet. White-turbaned citizens were seen rushing into the fight, hewing with their scimitars; and Lazi mountaineers springing like wolves from behind rocks, and charging with the clubbed rifle or broad two-edged dagger. The grey-coated Russians, too, fought with wondrous courage; again and again they advanced to the deadly breastworks, and were blown from the very mouths of the guns or bayoneted in the batteries. As the action continued, and each new movement of the enemy was tried, the excellence of Colonel Lake's batteries was fully proved. Wherever the columns of the enemy were directed they found themselves under a flanking fire of heavy guns; if they gained possession of a battery weaker than the rest, they were again pounded by our artillery from some battery which commanded the weaker point; meantime any assault on the keys of our position was altogether hopeless,—the Colonel himself under a heavy fire, directed the artillery of the two principal batteries, and well did the Turkish officers, who are second to none in the world in their practical skill in this branch, second his efforts. I am unable to do justice to this gallant affair of the Heights of Kars; the battle continued without intermission for seven hours, and about midday the Russian columns were seen running down the hills much faster than they had advanced, their cavalry and horse artillery protecting their retreat. Two of our forts, named Chim Tabia and Tek Tabia, or the one-gun battery, both of which were out of reach of the enemy's light guns, fired into their retreating columns with heavy ordnance, the former battery especially doing much execution. Oh, for two regiments of cavalry to complete our day's work! But we had none, and so were mortified to see the Russian army, or what remained of it, quietly retreating to their original camp, but not without considerable symptoms of disorder. I rode round the batteries soon after the action, which ended about 11 a.m., and seldom had the oldest officer seen a more terrible sight; there were literally piles of dead stripped of their clothes and lying in various postures, while the plaintive cries of men with shattered limbs arose from all sides from amid these acres of defaced humanity. I have no time to go into further details, nor will I endeavour to form a calculation of the Russian loss in killed and wounded, lest I be accused of exaggeration, but I will give you an unadorned fact. We have already buried upwards of 4,000 dead Russians, numbers of the enemy also crowd our hospitals, where the Turks treat them as *muscifis* or guests, a sacred word used by the Mushir Vassif Pasha, as he directed them to be taken care of even more than our own men. Our own losses are scarcely above 1,000." In a postscript the writer says, "We have buried already 6,300 Russians; numbers were carried off by the enemy besides."

A letter in the *Times* gives further intelligence from Kars, down to the 10th of October: "Oct. 5.—The enemy shows every symptom of taking a final departure, but I never shall feel sure he is gone until I hear of his being safe in Gumri. Up to yesterday our people report having buried 6,500 men, and they have not finished yet. A certain number of troops are employed in

parties under an officer; each officer reports the number he buries to a brigadier-general, who keeps the account; so that, if the truth is to be got out of a Turk, we have some hope of arriving at it; but deserters and others coming in from camp give the total loss in killed and wounded at 18,000!—among the former are said to be 300 officers killed. This I can readily believe as the officers were always to the front. We see thousands of carts leaving the Russian camps every day, laden with wounded; some are carried by men and some put on horses, for want of carriage. General Baklanoff, of the Artillery, was killed, and Mouravieff is said to have wept bitterly at his funeral. The General second in command is also said to be killed, and many other superior officers. The Russians showed wonderful courage in standing up to the batteries and breastworks, which was pretty well proved by the numbers lying in the ditches and around the works. The Turks fought more like demons than men, and, I grieve to say, their conduct in many instances was most fiendish. The Karsles, or inhabitants of Kars—a fine race of men, proverbial for their hereditary bravery—were in the very thickest of the fight, greyheaded men and young lads alike mingling in the fray. Many of them had imbibed an intense horror of the Russians from the treatment they had formerly experienced from them—their houses robbed, their families ill-treated, and every indignity put upon them; their thirst for vengeance therefore, was great. One man, who shot down a Russian, seeing the blood spouting out, rushed forward, caught the blood in his two hands and drank it. He then fastened on the body with his teeth, shook it like a dog, and bit pieces out. The troops were equally ferocious, and I fear bayoneted many a wounded man. I rode about doing my best to prevent it, but their blood was up and they were under no control. You saw men walking about with Russians' heads stuck on the ends of their bayonets, and, in short, I cannot describe the whole scene. However, they soon subsided, and became as tractable as ever again. No troops in the world ever fought better. I do not know at what number General Williams puts the two forces in his despatch, as I have not seen it, but I fancy 30,000 Russians must have been in the field, while we had from 7,000 to 9,000 engaged altogether. We sent reinforcements up just at the end, which may have brought the force up to the latter number; but, for the most part of the time, I should say 7,000 was the outside number. It is wonderful how little the works were damaged, considering the heavy and continued firing kept up. We have now put them all in order again, for fear of another attack; but I scarcely think it probable. Our loss in killed and wounded amounts to between 1,000 and 1,100; many of the latter have since died. We lost a few officers (Turks), but none of the English officers suffered, strange to say. We have got four Russian officers here, three badly wounded, and one taken prisoner unhit; about 150 wounded Russians, and 50 prisoners, but I do not exactly know the numbers. Our men neither gave nor asked for quarter. The hospitals are quite crowded; for, I am sorry to say, cholera is still very bad, and men are dying every day in numbers. If the Russians go away, I fancy General Williams will proceed to Erzeroum, and I am to be left here. Of course, I do not look forward to it with much pleasure, for nothing can be done in the winter, and the cold is intense. The town is half unroofed to supply us with firewood; the Russians have laid waste the whole of the surrounding country, having set fire to every place. Every village is deserted, and the houses pulled down; and, in short, I know not what the population will do next year, for there will be no grain of any kind. A great deal in my opinion, depended on our being able to keep this place. I need not dwell on what the result would have been if we had lost it, for you know better than I can tell you. This last crowning act of the campaign carries with it more good than at first appears. If Omar Pasha has not been asleep, he must be already near Tiflis, but even if he has, from necessity or other causes, delayed his march on that place, he will now have to encounter an army weaker in numerical strength by, say at least 10,000 men, but most probably more, and, from all accounts, in a most dispirited if not dis-

organised state. At this very moment, I believe the garrison of Gunri to consist of not more than 400 or 500 men, and if we had only had our artillery horses and a few regiments of cavalry, we might have kept this Russian army in check still longer, and have thus considerably facilitated Omar Pasha's movements. Thousands of our horses lie underground, and our artillery is quite crippled. — Oct. 7.—We found it impossible to send out a post, for we are still surrounded by the Russians. We fancied we saw symptoms of a move, but they are still here. No one knows what Omar Pasha is about. I fear he has not commenced his operations, or Mouravieff would not dare to remain. It may be that he cannot yet remove his wounded. Each day he sends off hundreds of carts laden with stores and wounded. We still hear reports of another attack. On the strength of it we have made three new redoubts in places where experience has now taught us that they may be useful. We made all our field magazines on Pasley's triangular profile, and had no accident; a shell burst on one of them, but did no mischief. There were many acts of individual daring on the 29th, and among them I must mention that of some women who volunteered to take water from below to the men engaged on the heights; two young girls of sixteen and eighteen were killed while doing this charitable action. Cholera is, I am sorry to say, making sad havoc among us, and we lose a great many men and officers every day. Our winter has regularly set in, and the snow is on the tops of the mountains. — Oct. 10.—The enemy still surrounds us, and I see no certain sign of a move; they may go at any hour."

The following detailed account of the capture of the Russian fortress of *Kinburn*, in the estuary of the Dnieper (briefly mentioned in last month's *Narrative*) is given by the correspondent of the *Times*:—“October 17. Kinburn has fallen after a short but most desperate defence. Early this morning the Russians perceived that the French had crept up during the night to the ruined village, and were busily engaged in making their first parallel, under cover of the houses, at about 700 or 650 yards from the place, whereupon they opened a brisk fire upon them from the guns *en barbette* in the eastern curtain; and were answered by two French field pieces from the screen of a broken wall. It was a dull grey dawn, with a wind off the shore, and the sea was quite calm. The fleet was perfectly still, but the mortar vessels, floating batteries, and gunboats were getting up steam, and before nine o'clock they were seen leaving the rest of the armada and taking up their position on the south side of the fort, the three floating batteries being close in with the casemates, and the mortar vessels and gunboats being further away and more to the eastward, so as to attack the angle of the fort, and fight the guns which were on the curtains *en barbette*. The floating batteries opened with a magnificent crash, at 9.30 a.m., and one in particular distinguished itself for the regularity, precision, and weight of its fire throughout the day. The enemy replied with alacrity, and the batteries must have been put to a severe test, for the water was splashed into pillars by shot all over them. At 10.10 the bombs opened fire. At 11.10 a fire broke out in the long barrack, and speedily spread from end to end of the fort, driving the artillerymen from their guns, while small explosions of supply ammunition took place inside. At 11.15 the Russian Jack was shot away, and was not replaced; the firing became tremendous. Admiral Stewart, in the *Valorous*, and the French admiral (second in command), in the *Asmodée*, followed by eleven steamers, came round the Spit battery into Cherson bay, delivering broadsides and engaging the batteries as they passed, and they were preceded by the *Hannibal*, which ripped up Kinburn with her broadsides. The fire raged more furiously, fed by constant bombs and rockets, and at 12.35 a fresh fire burst out in the fort. At the same time the *Valorous*, *Asmodée*, and steam frigates opened broadsides on the fort, and the nine line-of-battle ships came up in magnificent style, and took up their position at the seaward face of the fort, already seriously damaged by the tremendous fire of the floating batteries, gunboats, and mortar

vessels. . . . The storm of shot from this great ordnance is appalling. The very earth seems flying into dust, and the fiery embers of the fort are thrown into columns of sparks by the shot. Still the Russians stand to the only guns they have left. The broadsides increase in vigour, and at last a white flag is waved by a single man from the rampart. Boats with flags of truce push off, and they learn that the garrison is willing to surrender. At 2 p.m. the firing ceases, and 1,100 men march into our lines, several of them quite drunk, carrying off food and drink, and the officers bearing their side arms. The garrison consisted of the 29th Regiment and of 100 artillermen. 200 are said to be killed, and 400 or 500 wounded; but admittance to the town is denied by the French, as it is said that the Governor is in the powder magazine inflamed to madness, and watching the chance of the victors entering to fire the mine, which is well stored with powder. We shall know more to-morrow.”

“Thursday, October 18.—When the flag was waved from the parapet, a boat, each with a flag of truce, pushed off from the English and French Admirals, and at the same time Sir Houston Stewart proceeded to shore near the battery, where he found the French General advancing to parley with the Governor. Major-General Kokonovitch advanced with a sword and pistol in one hand and a pistol in the other, and threw down his sword at the officer's feet, and discharged his pistols into the ground, or at least pulled the triggers with the muzzle pointing downwards, in token of surrender. He was moved to tears, and as he left the fort he turned round and made some passionate exclamation in Russian, of which the interpreter could only make out, ‘Oh, Kinburn! Kinburn! Glory of Suvaroff and my shame, I abandon you,’ or something to that effect. As the garrison marched out they were ordered to pile their arms, but many of them threw them on the ground at the feet of the conquerors, with rage and mortification depicted in their features. It appears that the second in command, whose name is something like Saranovitch—a Pole by birth—inflamed by courage and its Dutch ally, declared he would not surrender, and that he was prepared to blow up the magazine before the enemy should enter, and he was supported by the officer of engineers and by the officer of artillery. Amid the crash of falling buildings, the explosions of mortars, the thunder of the fleet, and the smoke and flames of their crumbling batteries, the Russians held a hasty council of war, at which it was put to the vote whether they should surrender or not, and the majority carried the question in the affirmative, on the side of humanity and reason. In vain the fanatic Pole, the artilleryman, and engineer tried to persuade the Governor and the majority to persist in the madness and folly of continuing their passive resistance, for active opposition was out of their power. ‘We can hold out for a week,’ said they. ‘What then?’ asked the Governor. ‘You have not been able to fire a shot for three-quarters of an hour. Are you likely to be in a better state two hours hence, and, above all, where are the men to live meantime?’ Such arguments, enforced by tremendous broadsides and by the knocks of the admirals with cannon balls against every side of the fort prevailed, and the white flag was hoisted, much to the satisfaction of every humane sailor in the allied fleet, the men of which could feel no pleasure in destroying a brave enemy, and much more to the gratification of those who were allowed to cease a demonstration of hopeless courage. Kokonovitch wept as he threw down the pen with which he signed the articles of surrender, but he had no reason to be ashamed of his defence. By the capitulation the garrison were permitted to retire with everything except their arms, ammunition, and guns: the officers were allowed to wear their swords, the men to carry off their knapsacks, clothing, regimental bugles, church property, relics, and pictures. When the Major General was asked to use his influence, or to give a pledge that no harm should befall the allies who might enter the place, he said he would do so, ‘but at the same time I must tell you,’ added he, ‘that the flames are at this moment very near the grand magazine.’ This was a friendly caution, which produced, of course, a corresponding effect, and steps were taken at once to prevent any such

lamentable losses as were caused after the evacuation of Sebastopol by the rashness of the troops. The second in command, the artillery officer, and the engineer, finding themselves deserted by officers and men, abandoned their suicidal determination, and surrendered themselves, and Kinburn was ours, as far as the flames and smoke would allow us to occupy it. The northern forts on the Spitz were not aware for some time of the reduction of the principal battery, or at least paid no attention to it, and hammered away for some time from one gun, till a shot from the Terrible utterly destroyed the casemate."

The subsequent operations of the Allied squadrons in the estuary of the Dnieper and the waters of the Boug have been confined to an active inspection of the former as far as the mouths of the river; and a cruise up the latter, until arrested by a battery planted half-way down the cliff, at a point where a spit of sand narrows the channel. From the decks and tops of the ships the visible parts of the steppe are seen to be covered with cattle, farm-houses, and stacks of hay and corn. The Spitfire discovered two large rafts of white oak, valued at 20,000£., at the mouth of the Dnieper, and brought them off. The larger raft was 450 feet long, 100 feet wide, 6 feet deep, and had a house upon it. The troops had moved along the Spit of Kinburn, destroying the nearer villages. The Russians subsequently advanced to Vassiliievka. It has been resolved that the French shall garrison Kinburn during the winter.

On the intelligence of the taking of Kinburn reaching Marshal Pelissier's head quarters, he issued an order of the day, dated Sebastopol, October 20, congratulating the army on the event. "The army (he said) will learn with joy the announcement of a fresh success. The flags of England and France have since the 17th floated on the walls of Kinburn. The key to the mouths of the Boug and of the Dnieper is in the power of the Allied armies. Surrounded on the sea side by the squadrons of Admirals Bruat and Lyons, and on the land side by the Anglo-French division under General Bazaine, the fort of Kinburn capitulated after a bombardment of five hours and a half. Its garrison, composed of one general officer, ten other officers, and 1,380 soldiers, left the place with the honours of war, and surrendered as prisoners of war, abandoning in the fort 174 pieces of cannon, 25,000 projectiles, 120,000 cartridges, with ammunition and supplies of different kinds. The day of the 17th October, in which the fleet and the army so happily united their efforts for the same object, adds to the glory and the renown of the Allied armies. The success thus obtained terrified the Russians, who, in their despair, on the following day blew up the fort of Otschakoff and three batteries near it. Kinburn in our hands will become a formidable menace against Nicolaieff and Kherson."

¹ No operations of importance have taken place in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol. The intended movement of Sir Colin Campbell in Eupatoria (mentioned in our last month's *Narrative*) did not take place. General Simpson, in a despatch dated October 20, says: "I informed your Lordship, in my despatch of the 13th instant, that the Highland Division, under Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell, were to proceed to Eupatoria and co-operate with the French; but upon the receipt of your telegraphic despatch of the 13th instant, apprising me that the Russians had resolved to hazard a battle and attack the Allies, I did not consider myself justified in weakening the force under my command by so many men, and I therefore countermanded the movement." Several forward movements have been made from Eupatoria, with the view of bringing the enemy to an engagement. A movement of this kind was made on the 22nd of October, of which an account is given by Lord George Paget, who commanded the English cavalry. The movement was made in two columns; one, chiefly Turkish, marching along the strip of land between the sea and Lake Sasik; the other going North of the lake, and moving by Karagourt and Temesh. This part of the force was under General d'Allonville himself, and at Tuzla he offered battle to the enemy; but it was declined, after an interchange of shots at long range. Joining the second column at Sak,

the whole returned, on the 24th, by the coast road to Eupatoria. Casualties in the British force, from want of water—two troop-horses and three mules. Another movement was made on the 27th of October, of which the following account is given by Marshal Pelissier:—"Sebastopol, Nov. 2.—On the 27th of October last, General D'Allonville, with twenty-four battalions, thirty-eight squadrons, and fifty-six guns, advanced along the road from Eupatoria to Simpheropol, as far as the Chotobar ravine. He found the Russians firmly established on the opposite side of the ravine, where they had constructed an intrenchment, defended by thirty-six 32-pounders. A few men and horses in our ranks were struck at long range. Every attempt made to bring the enemy to an engagement outside of this strong position failed. Ten Russian squadrons fell back before four Turkish squadrons, whom General d'Allonville had sent against them. On the following day the same manoeuvres were renewed, with no better result. The want of water in front of Sak, and the difficulty of obtaining fodder, decided the General on returning to Eupatoria on the 29th. The environs of this place, for a great distance round, have been wholly abandoned by the Russians."

The stone docks of Sebastopol (among the greatest and most magnificent works of their kind in the world) are about to be destroyed by the Allies. The engineering operations for their destruction are undertaken by the English and French jointly. These operations are described by the correspondent of the *Daily News*: "There are six docks, arranged in two rows of three docks, one row behind the other. The two sets of docks are separated from each other by a very large and capacious basin. The first series, that nearest to the head of the Karabelnaia port, is constructed for the reception of vessels drawing 21 feet of water; the second, for drawing 18 feet of water. They are built of carefully cut white limestone, edged with a close-grained fine granite; and in every part wherever there is more than the usual liability to wear and detrition, whether from friction, strain, or weather, or where particular support, this latter kind of stone is used in place of the former. At certain intervals where openings have been left in the sides of the docks to admit of descent by flights of stone steps, are seen some highly polished blocks of red granite, magnificent in size and quality, which are said to have been brought all the distance from Aberdeen. The iron gates, of enormous size, and the machinery by which they are opened and closed, are all of the most careful workmanship. Close to the docks themselves is a large engine-house, and near it is seen the termination of the aqueduct from Tchorgoun. The docks were filled from this source, and the pumps are so arranged that each dock could be filled or emptied irrespective of the remainder. Thus one dock could be employed as a dry dock while a vessel was afloat in the dock adjoining. Since the stream flowing along the aqueduct was diverted by the Allies, the docks have remained dry, and many fragments of shells as well as round shot are now to be seen scattered about them and over the floor of the great basin. Alongside of the docks are spacious wharves, and all the various workshops, sheds, and houses used by the artisans and labourers in the dockyard employ. These wharves are continuous with those of the Karabelnaia harbour, terminating at Fort Paul, where the lofty store buildings are placed which were partly converted into hospitals when the barrack hospitals were no longer tenable, and when so many dead and wounded were left on the 9th of September. The docks lie in a deep hollow, having on one side the hill crowned by the barracks and other public buildings which separate them from the water of the south harbour, and on the other the high ground at the back of the Malakhoff-hill, and covered by the houses of the Karabelnaia suburb. The lofty dockyard wall is on the high ground and encloses the whole of the small valley occupied by the docks and surrounding buildings; and on entering the enclosure through an opening in the wall, which is at present doubly guarded by both an English and French sentry, a very considerable descent has to be made before reaching the level ground below. It was from this cause that none of the docks could be seen

from any part of our approaches, although that part of the wall near the barracks, as well as the wall at right angles to it stretching towards the suburb, were plainly visible in the dip between the Great Redan and Malakoff hills. The English engineers are preparing to destroy the three docks first reached on entering by the opening just mentioned; the French, those nearest to the Karabelnaia port. They have adopted different methods for effecting this object. The English engineers are sinking shafts at certain intervals outside the walls of the several docks; the French engineers are excavating galleries beneath the foundations of those which are in their hands. The French method will probably be the most complete, but as they have to work in the rock beneath the paved stone of the dock, it is by far the more laborious. By the English plan, the shaft is sunk through a gravelly soil of recent formation, and has to be supported by wooden linings. The force of the charge will be directed against the side walls, and the masonry will be projected into the bottom of the dock. By the French plan the foundation, as well as the walls, will be raised and broken up, and the whole will fall in a heap of ruin, such as we now behold the remains of Fort Paul, the most successful of Russian mining. Looking down on the docks of the Karabelnaia from the high ground near the entrance, there appears such a perfect unity in their design, the scale on which they are built is so magnificent, the execution of the work so perfect, that it is impossible to watch the operations of the miners for their destruction, without a feeling of regret that so vast an expenditure of wealth and labour, such toil of mind and ingenuity of thought, should have been employed and exercised to so little good result; and further, that it should not now be consistent with international policy that, instead of demolition, their capacity should be converted into more profitable uses for the future. It is presumed that although all the preparations are to be completed, the actual explosion of the mines will not take place until future operations shall induce the necessity of the troops quitting their position."

The aspect of Balaklava is described by the correspondent of the *Daily News*.—“In Balaklava there is a High Street, a Railway Street, and a Raglan Square: not that I can say much for the architecture of the houses, the majority of the buildings being simply huts used as stores and barracks; but at Kadikoi or the bazaar there is some attempt at regularity. The number of grocers and drinking-houses in this small collection of wooden buildings is astonishing; but the three best stores are Oppenheim and Co.’s, Silver and Co.’s, and Crockford and Co.’s; and with these three most of the English officers deal. When riding through this village the other morning I noticed the following sign-boards—‘James Golborn and Co., of London’; ‘Thomas Booker and Co., agents to J. W. Silver and Co., London and Liverpool’; ‘Oppenheim and Co., restaurant only for officers’; ‘Ariel Store—J. Lawson’; ‘Dickens and Warren, London’; ‘Crockford and Co., wine-merchants, of St. James’s Street, London’; ‘The Navy and Army Hotel, London’; ‘Restaurant *du Lunion*—Biere Liquors’; ‘Refreshments, London — Restaurant de ROME’; ‘Seller Sattler’; ‘Railway Tavern and Eating Room, by Jas. Matthews, London’; ‘Restaurant des Officers Allies.’ This last establishment is clean and well served in every way, although not much frequented by the English.”

Dr. Hall furnishes a pretty satisfactory account of the health of the army. The number admitted into the hospitals for the week ending 9th October was 1550, of whom 51 died; in the following week, the number was 1626, of whom 51 died. The men were well clothed and fed. Colonel M’Murdo, in his weekly report on the state of the Land Transport Corps, gives a favourable opinion on the progress of its organisation. The corps had 14,737 animals on the 16th October. Young English drivers had arrived, “a timely resource,” for “the natives had begun to desert in great numbers.” He mentions that a “floating factory” had arrived, which “brought Woolwich” to the British army in the Crimea. He reports well of the state of the roads.

The *Daily News* correspondent describes the state of

the General Hospital in Balaklava.—“It consists of a square stone building and twenty-one huts. The former is occupied by officers and soldiers, and the latter by army works corps men, navvies, engineers, civilians, and sailors from the ships in the harbour, in the proportion now of about eleven inmates to each hut. Attached to the General Hospital are fourteen nuns, who lately arrived from Kululee Hospital, on the Bosphorus. One of them to every three huts is employed in attending the sick, and the remainder attend the soldiers in the stone building. Dr. Hall, I believe, originally only applied for the services of four Sisters of Mercy, but the Roman catholic clergyman at the head of the whole charity sent all that there were at Kululee, and they arrived in the Crimea with Miss Nightingale from Scutari about a fortnight back. When riding up under the castle to the Sanatorium, where the wounded are, I met three protestant military chaplains, who were actually bigoted enough to state that they were glad the ‘sisters’ were not with them, quite forgetting, apparently, the services they might perform for the sick. To this hospital are attached about eight nurses, who not only attend upon the men, but they also cook the different comforts for both men and officers, the latter occupying one hut. To the south of the huts is a large one, which has just been doubly lined for the winter, and in which the nurses and Miss Nightingale live, the latter having about one quarter of the hut divided into two rooms, which certainly are but very scantily furnished—a bed, shelf, table, and chair comprising almost all, except a few bibles and testaments, &c.”

Painful accounts are given of the prevalence of drunkenness in the army. The correspondent of the *Times* says:—“Yesterday was Sunday. I rode into Balaklava at one p. m., through Kadikoi Major, and returned, towards dusk, through Kadikoi Minor. The sights I saw, both going and returning, were enough to make an Englishman despair of his countrymen. All along the road were men—not only privates but non-commissioned officers—in every stage of drunkenness. Sobriety was really the exception, intoxication the rule. Noisy groups, flushed and unsteady with drink, were interspersed with staggering sots who could not keep on their legs. Two Highlanders, one of them on the ground, the other making violent and fruitless efforts to get his comrade to stand up, were affording, at two in the afternoon, great amusement to a number of French road-makers. Sunday is not a day of rest for the French working-parties. Three hours later I passed a group of three non-commissioned officers of some line regiment. The centre man was kept from falling only by the support of the two others, themselves far from sober, and the trio made the most of the road after the most approved fashion. Numbers of officers must have met this group, and the natural and proper course would have been to take their names and send them at once to their quarters under arrest; but drunkenness here has reached such a pitch that it would be an endless task to do this. The tavern booths of the Old Kadikoi were crowded with drinkers, and rang with oaths, obscenity, and brawls. Notwithstanding the closing of many of the establishments there, the place is still a scene of life and bustle, while Little Kadikoi, hard by the Guards’ camp, has not upon weekdays the appearance of doing much business. But in the evening when the working-parties come off duty, and on Sundays, when they have none to do, it is as much thronged as the booths on a race-course or at a fair, or as the back slums of a seaport town when half-a-dozen men-of-war have just been paid off. Drink, of course, is nearly the sole object of its frequenters, and drink, not in moderation, but to the most beastly excess. Yesterday towards nightfall, it was more than several officers, non-commissioned officers, and patrols, could do to maintain something like order, and master the subordinate and refractory drunkards. . . . Considering that, besides his working pay, the soldier gets 13d. a day to spend, it is hard to see what objection there can be to invest the other 8d. for his future welfare, instead of leaving it to be squandered in the pot-house. Unless you took him by the arm and led him up to the tap, you could hardly do more to induce him to

drink than by giving him 1s. 9d. to spend here, where drink is literally the only thing he can spend it in. The good qualities of the British soldier have been often proved and extolled, and are admired by all; but sobriety is certainly not one of his virtues; he will drink if you give him money, and drink, as he does here, until he brings himself to a level with the beast."

In consequence of the extent of the practice among the officers of applying for leave of absence from the army, General Simpson has issued the following general order:—"The Commander of the Forces has been much surprised at the numerous applications for leave of absence which have lately reached him from officers of all ranks in the army. It has to remind them that they are still in the presence of a powerful enemy; moreover that they have duties to perform in camp not less important than those in the field; and that the instruction, discipline, and well-being of the troops are subjects which require the earnest attention of all good soldiers."

Sir William Codrington has succeeded General Simpson (who has resigned) as Commander in Chief of the British army in the Crimea.

Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell has returned to England, having obtained leave of absence on account of urgent private affairs. His absenting himself at this time has been ascribed to dissatisfaction at the appointment of General Codrington to the command of the army. But it appears that Sir Colin had obtained his leave of absence before the intelligence of General Codrington's appointment could have reached the Crimea.

Prince Gortschakoff has announced his determination not to evacuate the Crimea, by an order of the day, dated the 25th of October:—"His Imperial Majesty, our master, having charged me to thank, in his name, and in the name of Russia, the valiant warriors who have defended the south side of Sevastopol with so much abnegation, courage, and perseverance, is persuaded that the army, after having acquired liberty of operations in the field, will continue by all possible efforts to defend the soil of Holy Russia against the invasion of the enemy. But, as formerly it pleased the solicitude of the father of the great family (the army) to order, in his lofty foresight, the construction of a bridge at Sebastopol, in order to spare at the last moment as much Russian blood as possible, so now the Emperor has also invested me with full powers to continue or cease the defence of our positions in the Crimea, according to circumstances. Valiant warriors! you know what our duty is. We will not voluntarily abandon this country, in which St. Vladimir received the water of grace, after having been converted to the Christianity we adore. But there are conditions which sometimes render the firmest resolutions impractical, and the greatest sacrifice useless. The Emperor has deigned to leave me the sole judge of the moment at which we must change our line of defence, if such be the will of God. It is for us to prove that we know how to justify the confidence of the Czar, who has come into our neighbourhood to provide for the defence of his country and the wants of his army. Have confidence in me, as you have hitherto had during all the hours of trial which the decrees of Providence have sent us."

The following is a summary of a statement which has been made of the strength of the British army in the Crimea on the 16th of October, and its probable strength at the commencement of the campaigning season next spring. We have now in the Crimea 56,000 men, of whom 51,500 are effective; calculating the mortality among them as 100 a-week for six months, and the sick list to be as numerous as at present, there would be of the soldiers at present in the Crimea 49,000 effective on the 15th of April; adding as reinforcement 2800 cavalry, and 20,000 infantry, we should have at the commencement of the campaigning season, about 70,000 British troops in fair condition. The Turkish Contingent will number 20,000, and this force will be further materially increased. The different Foreign Legions may be estimated at 5000 men, and omitting the Sardinian army, the total strength is calculated thus:—British troops, 70,000; Turkish Contingent, 20,000; the British German and British Swiss Legions, 5000; making altogether 95,000 men.

A despatch from Marshal Pelissier gives an account of a serious disaster that had befallen the Allies.

"Sebastopol, November 16, six p.m.—Our park of artillery (called Park of the Mill) near Inkerman was partly destroyed yesterday at four o'clock in the afternoon, by the explosion of three magazines, containing altogether 30,000 kilogrammes of powder, 690,000 cartridges, 300 charged shells, and other projectiles. The ignited materials, hurled to a distance, caused a violent conflagration in the English park next to ours, and there also partial explosions took place. At six o'clock the English and French workmen were masters of the fire. Our loss consists of 30 killed, including two officers, and some hundred wounded, among whom are ten officers. However sad such an event is, we must still congratulate ourselves that the consequences have not been more serious and disastrous. I am not able to state the losses of our allies; I believe they are about the same as our own. As nearly always happens in similar cases, it is difficult to ascertain the cause of the first explosion. This is certainly a very lamentable accident; but our stores are so considerable, that the resources of the army are not in the slightest degree affected by it."

General Codrington has given some additional particulars. "Sebastopol, Nov. 16.—A very heavy explosion of a store of powder at the French siege train took place at about 3 p.m. yesterday; it communicated fire to our siege train close to it, where there was no powder, but some naval live shells, most of which were removed; but the loss of life and damage done is considerable. The great explosion threw shell over the camp of our siege train; the huts of the first brigade being entirely damaged, but not by fire. All officers and men were on the spot at once, and worked with good will and energy, and I saw all safe when I quitted at 7 p.m. Killed—Deputy Assistant-Commissary Yellon, R.A., and 21 non-commissioned officers and men. Wounded—Lieutenant Dawson, R.A., lost his leg below his knee; Lieutenant Robert, dangerously in the arm; Lieutenant Eccles and Assistant-Surgeon Read, 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, slightly; 116 brigade commissioned officers and men, of whom 47 slightly. Missing—4 rank and file."

Colonel Cameron of the Forty-second Regiment has been appointed to the command of the Highland division during the absence of Sir Colin Campbell.

The Gazette of the 20th instant contains a despatch from Sir Edmund Lyons, enclosing despatches from the commander of the flotilla in the Sea of Azoff. From these we learn the operations of the flotilla between the 10th and 25th October. On the night of the 10th, Lieutenant Commerell, of the Weser, caused a prize-boat to be carried over the Spit of Arabat, and launched in the Putrid Sea. Embarking in this boat with Mr. Lillingston, mate, Quartermaster Rickard, and two seamen, he rowed across to the mouth of the Salghir and Karasu rivers. Leaving the mate and one seaman in the boat, and taking the others with him, he forced the river, marched two and a half miles up its bank, and, setting fire to large stacks of corn and forage, (400 tons,) totally destroyed them. In returning, the little party was hard-pressed by the Cossacks. The seaman sank in the mud, but Rickard gallantly rescued him under fire; and all three gained the boat, and returned to the Weser without accident. On the 15th instant, Lieutenant Day, of the Recruit, landed a party in the face of the enemy on Whitehouse Spit, and burnt seven boats, many new fishing-nets of great length, five large new fishing establishments, full of quantities of fishing-tackle and other gear. On the 20th, Lieutenant Champion, of the Ardent, destroyed three boats on Crooked Spit. On the 24th, Captain Osborn, of the Vesuvius, landed a party of marines and small-arm men on Whitehouse Spit, and destroyed eight rifle-pits, eleven boats, and a large fishery; while Lieutenant Day destroyed, in the neighbourhood of Mariopol, two large fisheries and some fine launches, mounted on regular travelling land-carriages. Captain Osborn, the senior naval officer, says—"The extraordinary efforts made by the enemy to prosecute their fisheries upon this coast, are the best proof of their importance. They some-

times move down 200 or 300 soldiers, who escort large launches placed upon carriages and arabas drawn by oxen laden with nets and gear, as well as fisherman to work them. The fish directly they are caught, are carted off into the interior; and when it is remembered that we have destroyed some hundred and odd launches upon one spit alone, some idea can be formed of the immense quantity of fish consumed on this coast; and, in proof of its being a large item in the sustenance of Russian soldiers, I would remind you that hundreds of tons of salted and dried fish were found and destroyed by us in the first destruction of the military depôts at Genitchi in May last."

Omar Pasha has been following up his successes in Asia. On the 6th instant he passed the river Ingour in the face of a formidable opposition. A despatch from Lord Stratford to the Earl of Clarendon says: "At noon, Omar Pasha forded the river Ingour on the 6th, at the head of 20,000 men, and defeated the Russians, computed at 10,000, including militia, and partly intrenched. The enemy lost about 400 in killed and wounded, 60 prisoners, and three pieces of cannon. The Turkish loss was upwards of 300. The British officers did honour to their country."

A similar account is given in a despatch from the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Ottoman Minister in London:—"Constantinople, Nov. 15.—On the 6th of November the troops under Omar Pasha, with the water up to their armpits, under a terrible fire, forced the passage of the river Ankara, or Onfour, in Georgia, which was defended by 16,000 Russians. They attacked the Russian redoubts at the point of the bayonet, and carried them, despite the desperate defence of the enemy. The Russian troops were completely routed, and fled. Our troops captured five cannon, seven ammunition-carts, and some 40 prisoners. The Russians left more than 400 dead on the field of battle, among whom were two superior officers and 100 subalterns. Our loss amounts to 68 killed and 220 wounded."

It appears by the accounts from the *Baltic Fleet*, that the operations are terminated for this season. Winter had set in, and the various ships were assembling in Nargen roads, preparatory to taking their departure from the Gulf of Finland, for the purpose of proceeding on their way to England.

Two courts-martial have taken place in the course of last month. The first was held on the 24th of October, on board the Royal George, for the trial of Mr. Harris, gunner of the Locust steamer, who was charged by his commanding officer with having absented himself from the ship without leave. The charge was fully proved, and the Court adjudged the prisoner to be dismissed Her Majesty's service. The second took place on board the Royal George on the 27th of October. Mr. Sparks, paymaster of the Vulture, was prosecuted for having been intoxicated on the 5th of that month, and for not having conducted himself as an officer and a gentleman, by not paying for necessities he had purchased at Dantzic. The charge of intoxication arose from the following circumstances:—While the Vulture was lying off Dantzic several Prussian officers came on board in the forenoon. Mr. Sparks and a Lieutenant were the only persons whose duties would allow them to entertain their guests, who remained several hours. The Lieutenant had to quit the gunroom on duty, and Mr. Sparks remained to afford the rites of hospitality to the strangers. He became inebriated and incapable of performing his duty. The evidence adduced in support of this charge fully confirmed it; in fact, it was tacitly admitted by the prisoner. To the charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman a most able defence was made, and it fell to the ground. It was proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the supplies furnished to the prisoner at Dantzic were not for himself alone, but for others also; that not only had the cost been defrayed, but an overplus of £1. had been handed over to the tradesmen from whom they were procured. The prisoner was found guilty on the first charge, but not guilty on the second, and sentenced to

be dismissed Her Majesty's ship Vulture, and to be placed at the bottom of the list of paymasters, there to remain for one year.

The latest accounts from Sebastopol contain the general orders issued by General Simpson and General Codrington; the one in quitting, and the other in assuming the command of the army. General Simpson says:—"General Sir James Simpson announces to the army that the Queen has been graciously pleased to permit him to resign the command of this army, and to appoint General Sir William Codrington, K.C.B., to be his successor. In resigning his command, the General desires to express to the troops the high sense he entertains of the admirable conduct of the officers and men of this army during the time he has had the honour to serve with them. In taking leave of them he tenders his best thanks to all ranks, and offers his earnest wishes for their success and honour in all the future operations of this noble army. General William Codrington will be pleased to assume the command of this army tomorrow, on the 11th inst."

General Codrington's address is:—"I have assumed the command of the army, in obedience to her Majesty's orders. It is with a feeling of pride, and with a feeling of confidence in the support which I know will be heartily given to any officer honoured with such a commission. The armies of France and Sardinia are united with us on this ground. We know their gallantry well, for we have seen it; we know their friendship, for we have profited by it; we have shared difficulties, dangers, and successes, the groundwork of mutual esteem; and all will feel it our pleasure as well as our duty to carry on that kindly intercourse which is due to the intimate alliance of the nations themselves. Our army will always preserve its high character in the field. The sobriety, the good conduct, and the discipline which it is our duty to maintain, are the best sureties of future success; and I trust to the efforts and assistance of all ranks in thus keeping the army to be an instrument of honour, of power, and of credit to England."

Large changes are announced in the staff and in the army. The staff of generals, the *Times* correspondent says, will be—Commander-in-Chief, Sir W. J. Codrington; Chief of the Staff, Major-General Windham; Light Division, Lord W. Paulet; Guards' Division, Lord Rokeye; Second Division, Major-General Barnard, late Chief of Staff; Third Division, Sir R. Eyre; Fourth Division, Major-General Garrett; Highland Division, Brigadier-General Cameron, *pro tem.*; Quartermaster-General, Colonel P. Herbert.

Intelligence has been received of the death of Admiral Bruat, who had been re-called from the command of the French fleet in the Black Sea. The melancholy event took place on the voyage from Constantinople to Toulon.

An unfounded rumour, that the life of the Emperor of the French had been attempted, was caused by an accident which happened on the 6th inst. The Emperor went to Fontainbleau for a day's shooting, chiefly with persons about the Court. On his return to Paris the outrider of a carriage proceeding to the railway station to meet the Emperor dropped a pistol from his holster, near the Faubourg St. Antoine: the pistol exploded, and wounded a man in the arm. The moment the Emperor arrived he was informed of the accident, and without loss of time sent his chief surgeon, who extracted the ball, and gave the wounded man 200 francs for his immediate wants, independent of further assistance which will be given him.

A conference of railway directors from all the lines in France has just been held in Paris to consider, pursuant to the recent circular of the Minister of Public Works, what can be done to prevent the recurrence of those accidents which have lately been so frequent and so disastrous. From the general tone of the sentiments expressed at the meeting, it is to be inferred that the

majority of the directors have come to the unsatisfactory conclusion that there is no room for improvement in the regulations of the companies. They very emphatically resolved, 1st, That inasmuch as no one is so deeply interested in the prevention of accidents as a director, it can be no fault of a director when an accident happens; and 2nd, That seeing the servants of the companies are more liable to be killed than the passengers, they must also be free from blame when anything goes wrong. Notwithstanding these forcible arguments against the probability of any good coming from an investigation, the meeting finally admitted that there could be no harm in appointing a committee of enquiry; and this they proceeded to do; but many eloquent speeches were made with a view to persuade the public to be resigned to the present per-centages of mangled corpses on railways, as being merely the result of the imperfection incident to all human institutions, and much less in proportion than the average casualties occurring to ordinary carriages and steam-boats.

The *Paris Exposition* was closed on the 15th with great pomp, by the Emperor in person. Her majesty the Empress, and the Imperial family arrived about noon and were conducted to a throne in the centre of the transept. After some formalities the Emperor made a short speech, in the course of which he said:—“Gentlemen,—The Exhibition which is about to close offers a grand spectacle to the world. It is during a serious war that from all parts of the universe men, the most distinguished in science, arts, and industry, have flocked to Paris, to exhibit their productions. This competition under such circumstances, is due, I am pleased to think, to that general conviction which prevails that the war which has been undertaken only threatens those who provoked it; that it is pursued for the interests of all, and that Europe, far from regarding it as a danger for the future, finds it rather a pledge of independence and security. Nevertheless, at the sight of so many marvels laid out before our eyes, the first impression is a desire for peace. Peace alone, in fact, can still more develop those remarkable productions of human intelligence. You must, therefore, with me wish that peace should be prompt and durable. But, in order to be durable, it must clearly solve the question for which the war was undertaken. To be prompt, Europe must declare in its favour, for without the pressure of general opinion, struggles between great powers threaten prolonged duration: whilst on the contrary, if Europe decides on declaring who is in the right and who is in the wrong, it would be a great step towards the solution. At the period of civilisation at which we are, the successes of armies, however brilliant they may be, are but transient; it is public opinion which always gains the last victory. All of you, therefore, who think that the progress of agriculture, the industry and the commerce of a nation contribute to the welfare of all others, and that the more reciprocal relations are multiplied, the more national prejudices are effaced, say to your fellow citizens on returning to your country, that France entertains no hatred against any nation, and that she feels sympathy towards all those who wish, like her, for the triumph of right and justice. Tell them, if they desire peace, they must openly, at least, express wishes either for or against us; for, in the midst of a serious European conflict, indifference is a bad calculation and silence an error. As for us nations allied for the triumph of a great cause, let us forge arms, without slackening our manufactures, and without stopping our looms; let us be great by the arts of peace as by those of war; let us be strong by concord; and let us put our trust in God to make us triumph over the difficulties of the present and the chances of the future.” After this address, which was received with acclamations, the distribution of the prizes took place.

The following British artists have received the prizes or honourable notices attached to their names:—*Large Gold Medal*: Sir E. Landseer, R.A. *First-class Gold Medals*: F. Grant, R.A., Sir J. W. Gordon, R.A., C. R. Leslie, R.A., C. Stanfield, R.A., G. Cattermole, R. Thorburn, R.A., J. H. Robinson. *Second-class Gold Medals*: E. M. Ward, A.R.A., D. Roberts, R.A., W. E. Frith, R.A., T. Webster, R.A., J. E. Millais, A.R.A., F. Tayler, R.A., L. Hage, S. Cousins, A.R.A. *Third-class*

Gold Medals: R. Ansdell, W. Hunt (water-colours), G. T. Doo, P. F. Poole, A.R.A., J. Thompson, F. Y. Hurstlove, D. Macnece, R.S.A. *Honourable Mention*: F. W. Topham, H. Warren, E. H. Wehnert, J. Wilson, jun., J. Cross, F. Goodall, A.R.A., E. H. Corbould, E. W. Cooke, F. Danby, A.R.A., A. Elmore, A.R.A., J. D. Harding, J. Holland, J. C. Horsley, A.R.A., R. J. Lane, A.R.A., J. Nash, J. N. Paton, J. Phillip, J. Pyc, L. Stocks, E. Stone, H. T. Wells. The names of Mr. Mulready, R.A., Sir W. Ross, R.A., D. Macleod, R.A., Creswick, R.A., Redgrave, R.A., Herbert, R.A., Dyee, R.A., Sir C. Eastlake, R.A., and others among the painters were withdrawn from competition. The following architects have received either medals or honourable mention:—Sir C. Barry, R.A., (*grande medaille d'honneur*), J. C. Cockerell, R.A., Owen Jones, J. L. Donaldson, F. Hardwick, R.A., G. Scott, E. Falkener, T. Hamilton, of Edinburgh, Decimus Burton, G. Fowler, T. Wyatt, Allom, D. Wyatt, R. Kendall, H. Shaw. There have been no medals awarded to British sculptors. Gibson was withdrawn from competition; Baily likewise. The following gentlemen are promoted or nominated in the Imperial Legion of Honour for services rendered to science, agriculture, and the fine and useful arts, as members of the international jury, viz.: Lords Hertford and Ashburton to be Commanders, Sir D. Brewster; Professor T. Graham; Mr. Bazley, President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, to be Officers. Sir W. Hooker; Professor Wilson, of Edinburgh; Mr. Crampton, the engineer; Professor R. Willis, of Cambridge; Professor Wheatstone; Professor Hoffmann, of the Royal College of Chemistry; Mr. W. Crum, of Glasgow; Mr. D. Wyatt; Mr. T. Delarue, paper manufacturer; Mr. Twining, originator of the Exhibition of Domestic Economy; Mr. Gibson; and Lord Elcho, to be Knights. Mr. H. Cole and Major Owen are nominated officers of the Legion of Honour, in consideration of their services as Commissioners of the United Kingdom.

A destructive fire has taken place at Paris. It broke out on Sunday evening the 18th inst., in the large government building on the Quai de Billy, in which a large supply of flour for making bread for the army was always kept. On the alarm being given, a large body of troops were at once ordered to the spot, and seven or eight engines arrived. The materials in the premises were however of so inflammable a nature as to defy every attempt at mastering the fire, and in a short time the flames burst out from all the windows with terrific grandeur. Fortunately the night was calm, and to that circumstance must be attributed the concentration of the fire within the building in which it had at first broken out. At nine o'clock the flames began to decline, and by half-past ten the fire was got under. The Emperor was on the spot, and did not leave it till all danger was over. The building was not more than 300 yards from the Exhibition of the Fine Arts, and the *annexe* of the Palais de l'Industrie. The extent of the damage, though great, has been less than was at first apprehended. Only one granary of corn has been destroyed. The immense stores of the government, in corn and flour, remain nearly uninjured, and they will soon be completely replenished by means of the corn purchased abroad, which is now either being received or on its way hither.

The *King of Sardinia* arrived at Paris on the 22nd inst. Prince Napoleon, the chief personages of the Emperor's household, the Presidents of the Senate and Legislative Body, and the Prefects, awaited him at the railway-station, and escorted him in procession along the quays, by the Hôtel de Ville, and the Rue de Rivoli, to the Tuilleries, where he was received by the Emperor. The streets were lined by applauding multitudes, and in the evening the public buildings, theatres, &c. were illuminated.

The *Concordat between Austria and the Pope* has been signed on both sides. It establishes the despotic power of the Vatican in the Austrian dominions. It consists of thirty-six articles, of which the following is a summary:—The first article declares the maintenance

of the Roman Catholic religion, with all the privileges which, by the laws of the church, it ought to have, unlimited persecution of heretics being of the number. Thus fall at a single blow that liberty of conscience and freedom of opinion in religious matters which have hitherto so honourably distinguished the Austrian Government. The second article gives to the bishops, clergy, and laity, free communication with the Pope, without the intervention of the temporal ruler, thus depriving the Emperor of any power or control over the national church, and placing it in the power of the Pope to contrive and execute the most dangerous conspiracies against the Government. The third article gives the bishop complete authority, pastoral and clerical. The fourth article enables them to do everything belonging to the government of their sees which is in accordance with the explanations or stipulations of the canonical laws, and which, in respect to the discipline of the church, is approved by the papal chair. The fifth article places all public and private schools under the control of the bishops; and the sixth gives the bishops the power of appointing and removing the only persons allowed to teach sacred theology. The seventh article provides that none but Catholic priests shall be allowed to teach anything in the middle class schools, and the books of instruction are to be chosen by the bishops. By the eighth article, the emperor is permitted to choose the inspectors of the schools of the diocese, but under the declared condition that the candidates from whom he may select shall be chosen by the bishops. The ninth article promises the help of the Government to suppress such books as are dangerous to religion in the judgment of the bishops. The tenth article establishes ecclesiastical courts for the punishment of the clergy and the trial of cases relating to marriage and betrothal. The eleventh article invests the bishop with the power of inflicting ecclesiastical punishment on clergy and laity; the twelfth article surrenders to the civil courts the power of deciding on the right of patronage, except in the case of a disputed succession.

A letter from *Bucharest*, dated the 3rd instant, speaks of the arbitrary proceedings of the Austrian occupants of the Principalities:—"A very serious affair has just occurred here. At two o'clock yesterday the English Colonel Thier was arrested in his lodgings by the Austrian military authorities. He was stripped of his military uniform by them, and forced to put on the Austrian great coat. Colonel Thier had served as lieutenant in the Austrian army, and passed over with his company in 1849 to the Piedmontese. After the war he entered the British service, and advanced in it to the rank of colonel. He was sent to Kronstadt, in Transylvania, the night that followed his arrest. He was at Bucharest ten or twelve days, having been sent by the English government to buy horses and carts for the army. He was duly accredited to the English agents, as also to the Ottoman authorities. Colonel Thier is a Hungarian. Ten minutes after his arrest the consul-general of England went to the house of General Coronini to reclaim the colonel. The general gave a brief and decided refusal. Mr. Colquhoun thereupon addressed an official letter to him on the subject, and it is said that the reply was something to this effect: 'I seize my deserters wherever I find them. I have the right to cause Thier to be shot instantly, if the Emperor commands me to give him up I shall break my sword.' The sensation produced here by the conduct of the Austrians is immense. I hope you will now understand the fault committed in allowing the Austrians to enter the Principalities."

In the *Spanish Cortes*, on the 5th instant, M. Arcas asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs if the relations of Spain with foreign powers were satisfactory, and he remarked that it was strange that so many Spanish ministers to foreign courts should be at present in the capital. The Minister of Foreign Affairs replied that the relations with all foreign powers, "Russia excepted," were of the most friendly character, and that the reason why so many ministers to foreign courts were in Madrid, was simply and solely that they had

been summoned because they were members of the Cortes, and because without them the number of deputies would not be sufficient to enable laws to be voted. The remark of the minister about Russia excited a considerable sensation, and the *Epoca* says that the consequences of it may easily be anticipated.

The *Piedmontese Chambers* were opened at Turin on the 12th instant by the king in person. The following is a summary of his majesty's speech:—"The year which has closed has been for me a period of heart-rending and cruel visitations. I have not hesitated to unite the arms of Sardinia to those powers who are struggling in the cause of justice, in behalf of the civilisation and independence of the nations. It is a proud thing for our soldiers and sailors to share in the dangers and glories of the brave armies of France and England and of Turkey. May God grant his blessing to our united efforts to make the next peace lasting—one which shall ensure to each nation its legitimate rights.—The expenses of the war necessitate a recurrence to public credit, by which the government will endeavour to render the general burdens less onerous. Let Sardinia continue to offer the noble example of a monarch and his people united by indissoluble ties of mutual love and confidence; maintaining inviolable the basis of public welfare, of order and of liberty." The Marquis Alferi has been elected president of the Senate.

The *Belgian Chambers* were opened on the 13th instant. His majesty made no allusion to the topic which disturbs the peace of Europe. His speech related entirely to the internal condition of the country, which he described as being, considering the difficulties of the times, generally satisfactory. He concluded, by saying: "We have commemorated the 25th anniversary of our independence; if this independence has been fruitful in benefits for the country—if, received at first with some defiance, it is to-day surrounded by the esteem and sympathy of governments and peoples—we owe it to that spirit of moderation and uprightness which forms the basis of our national character and regulates our policy. My government is animated by this spirit. I rejoice to believe that the royal concurrence of the Chambers will not be wanting."

Accounts from *Stockholm* mention the arrival of General Canrobert on a mission from the Emperor of the French, ostensibly in order to present the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour to the king, but really (as is understood) for the purpose of making overtures to induce the Swedish government to enter into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with France. General Canrobert has been received with great distinction by the court, and with enthusiasm by the people.

The Emperor of *Russia* has issued an ukase, dated October 15, ordering, "In consequence of the losses sustained by our troops during the campaign of the present year, that a levy of ten men for every thousand souls shall take place over the whole empire except in the governments of Pskow, Pultova, Tcheringof, Khar-kow, Ekatherinoslav, Kkerson, and Tauris." On this subject a letter from St. Petersburg, dated October 26, published in the *Constitutionnel*, says:—"The manifesto of the Czar relative to the new levy, produced here the most painful impression. Since 1836 no levy of 10 men in every 1000 inhabitants had taken place throughout the empire, for you must have remarked that seven governments only have been exempted from the measure. Russia, as respects the conscription, is divided into two great provinces, the one formed of the eastern governments and the other of the western, each of which must furnish in turn the annual contingent of recruits. In 1836 the two provinces supplied together 5 men for every 1000 souls. In 1840, 6 men for every 1000 souls were levied in 25 governments, and 5 in 22 others. In 1848 and 1849 the western part gave 8 men per 1000 souls, and the eastern 4. It is only since the beginning of the war that the alternate levies amounted to 10 and 12 men per 1000 souls, one year in the great eastern division, and the other in the western. But the

government never required at once from the population of the empire so considerable a sacrifice. 80,000 men are regarded as the average result of the recruitment of one-half of the empire, at the rate of 7 or 8 men per 1000 souls. I do not exaggerate by estimating at 200,000 men the numbers recruited in virtue of the new decree. That maximum, however, will scarcely suffice to complete the effective force of the different corps and fill up the vacancies occasioned by the war. Every man is worth about 5000 roubles, so that a landed proprietor who owns 1000 serfs pays to the State 50,000 roubles. You may consequently judge of the enormity of the sacrifice imposed upon him."

During the Czar's recent visit to Odessa, he attended Divine Service in the Cathedral. At the threshold, the archbishop, in presenting the Cross and the holy water, addressed (says the Russian Journal) some words full of unction to his majesty. These words were: "Pious Sovereign! Thou hadst scarcely put on the crown of thy ancestors, when it pleased Providence to surround it with thorns. Our bodily eyes are not accustomed to see such an ornament sparkle on the head of kings, but the eyes of faith see in it, with piety and respect, a souvenir of the crown of Christ. Have not indeed such crowns been worn by the most pious kings and princes from David, Jehoshaphat, Constantine, Vladimir the Great, to Dimitri, our hero of the Dou, and finally thy patron, Alexander Newsky? 'Have courage, and let not thy soul become weak at the sight of these smoking brands,' said the prophet to the warrior-king, Ahaz, when the two kingdoms of Israel and Assyria united against him in an unjust war. How closely do these words of the prophet apply to us and our enemies! This unhappy France! Is she not in truth the brand which for half a century has carried fire throughout the entire world? And the proud, but to-day abased and

jeopardised Britain! What is she, if not the other brand, which, after being extinguished for two centuries, recommences to smoke in the midst of a yawning gulf? And we also will say with the Prophet, 'Let not thy soul grow weak at the sight of these two smoking brands before us!' At a sign from the Most High the winds abate, and the rain falls to fertilise our fields. These brands depart, and Russia, protected by God, recovers itself for the joy of her chief, and for the well-being even of her own enemies. Enter, then, O pious Sovereign, the temple where once thy august father came in the depth of night to raise towards Heaven his thanks for having escaped the tempest and shipwreck—enter, and in thy turn raise with us thy prayers to the King of kings for the cessation of the tempest which now rages both upon sea and land. May Heaven grant this temple may again see thee kneeling before God, but then only to render acknowledgments and to give thanks. Amen."

In the *United States* an attempt has been made to excite a hostile feeling towards this country, but apparently without success. Several persons having been prosecuted at Philadelphia for having recruited for the militia service of England, Mr. Cushing, the attorney-general, in a letter to the district attorney of Philadelphia on the subject of these prosecutions, made a violent attack on the British government as having through its agents violated the rights of the United States. A person named Wagner has been tried and convicted of having contravened the American Foreign Enlistment Act, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment and a fine of 100 dollars.

A railway accident has occurred near St. Louis by which twenty-two persons lost their lives and fifty were wounded.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE approach of Christmas has at length infused some activity into the great publishing houses, and in number and importance the past month's contributions to literature are at least respectable. They have comprised, in Biography, the third and fourth volumes of the *Memoirs of James Montgomery*; the *Life and Works of Goethe*, with *Sketches of his Age and Contemporaries*, by Mr. G. H. Lewes; a curious little tract of Charles the Second's day, entitled *Memoirs of Sir John King, Knt., written by his Father in 1671*; Sir John King having been a highly successful nisi prius lawyer; a *Life of Fielding*, by Mr. Frederick Lawrence; a *Life of Jeanne d'Albret*, the celebrated Queen of Navarre, by Miss Freer; a second volume of Lord Brougham's *Sketches of Statesmen*; and an illustrated *Life of Luther*. In History there has been published Mr. Prescott's *Reign of Philip the Second*, and Lieut.-Col. Hanley's *Campaign of Sebastopol*, the latter written, as history has not often been written, on the spot where the history was acted. To Fiction the contributions have been *Lady Willoughby, or the Double Marriage*, a novel by Mrs. La Touche; the first volume of the *Collected Miscellanies* of Mr. Thackeray; a single-volume story by Holme Lee, called *Gilbert Messenger*; a child's story by Mrs. R. Lee, called *Sir Thomas, or the Adventures of a Cornish Baronet*; another by Miss Geraldine Jewsbury, *Angelo, or the Pine Forest in the Alps*; *Tales of Magic and Meaning*, by Mr. Alfred Crowquill; and the *Talking Bird*, by Miss Kirby; and a sequel to "Passages in the Life of Mrs. Margaret Maitland" under the title of *Lilliesleaf*. Of books of travels the principal are *Pictures from Cuba*, by an American traveller, Mr. Hurlbut; *Eastern Experiences*, by Mr. Kennard; the *Last of the Arctic Voyages*, being a narrative of Sir Edward Belcher's last expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, published under the authority of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; notes of travel up *The Rhine*, by Mr. Henry Mayhew, accompanying a series of engravings after drawings by Mr. Birket Foster; a translation of M. About's description of modern *Greece and the Greeks*; a new edition, with

important additions, of Lord Broughton's *Travels in Albania and other Provinces of Turkey*, forty-five years ago; and *Two Summer Cruises with the Baltic Fleet* last year, being the log of the Pet Yacht, by the Rev. R. E. Hughes. The Poems published have comprised a new translation after *Echylus*, of *Agamemnon the King*, by Mr. Blew; Mr. Longfellow's *Song of Hiawatha*; a new edition of Longfellow's *Miscellaneous Poems*, illustrated by Gilbert; and *Men and Women*, fifty short poems by Robert Browning. Finally, the additions in Miscellaneous Literature have included a reply to Sir James Emerson Tennent on the *Wine Duties considered financially and socially*, by Mr. Bosville James; the second volume of Wilson's *Noctes Ambrosianæ*; Mr. Punch's new *Pocket Book*; an *Inquiry concerning Religion*, by Mr. George Long; the continuation of Dr. Lindley's *Ferns of Great Britain*, nature-illustrated by Mr. Henry Bradbury; a volume of *Cambridge Essays*, on the plan of those published earlier in this year by the members of the sister university; the first volume of Arago's *Popular Astronomy*, translated and edited by Admiral Smyth and Mr. Robert Grant; a new edition of *Echylus*, with an English commentary by Mr. Paley (in Messrs. Long's and MacLean's excellent *Bibliotheca Classica*); a volume on *Electricity* by Mr. Noad; an essay on the *Music of the Nineteenth Century and its Culture*, by Dr. Adolph B. Marx; a new and greatly improved edition of Mr. Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates and Universal Reference*; a *Pocket Dictionary of the English and Turkish Languages*; the *Keepsake*, and the *Court Album* for 1856; an elaborate essay on the *Currency*, in a letter to the Duke of Argyle; an essay on *The Bayeux Tapestry*, with outlines of the subjects elucidated, by an accomplished northern antiquary, Mr. Collingwood Bruce; a *Handbook of the Arts of the Middle Ages and Renaissance*, as applied to furniture and decorations, translated from the French of Jules Lebarre, with very numerous and finely executed woodcuts; and an *Analytical View of Sir Isaac Newton's Principia*, by Lord Brougham and Mr. E. P. Rowth.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 17th inst., £11,263,224.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

	s. d.		s. d.	
Gold, stan. per oz. £3 17 9	5 1 3	Silver bars, stan. per oz.	5 1 3	
Do, dust, "	5 0 2	Mexican dollars, "	5 0 2	

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0·22 prem.	New York	par.
Hamburg	0·18 prem.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 6 per cent. short dates; 7 per cent. long.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	88 <i>1</i>	87 <i>1</i>	89
Three per Cent. Reduced	88 <i>1</i>	86 <i>1</i>	88
New Three per Cents	88 <i>1</i>	86 <i>1</i>	88 <i>1</i>
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	3 <i>1</i>	3 <i>1</i>	3 <i>1</i>
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	20 <i>9</i>	20 <i>6</i>	20 <i>9</i>
Exchequer Bills, March	11	10 dis.	8 <i>4</i> dis.
India Bonds	10	5 dis.	8 <i>5</i> dis.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	95 <i>1</i>	93 <i>1</i>	94 <i>1</i>	559,341
11 <i>6</i> ·3	Blackwall	6 <i>2</i>	6	6 <i>1</i> ·4	56,104
100	Caledonian	59	55 <i>1</i>	54 <i>1</i>	462,527
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	50	49 <i>1</i>	50	1,056,843
20	Eastern Counties	9 <i>2</i>	84	9 <i>1</i> ·8	901,851
100	Gt. Sm. & Wn. (Irel.)	101 <i>1</i>	50 <i>4</i>	102	257,207
100	Great Northern	87 <i>2</i>	81 <i>2</i>	86 <i>2</i> · 87	840,646
100	Great Western	51 <i>2</i>	48 <i>1</i>	50	1,629,665
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	76	74 <i>1</i>	75 <i>1</i> · 2	818,682
100	London & N. Westn.	95	91 <i>1</i>	94 <i>1</i>	2,253,512
100	London & S. Westn.	86 <i>2</i>	82	85 <i>1</i>	587,067
100	Midland	65	62 <i>2</i>	63 <i>1</i> · 2	1,097,451
100	South-East. & Dover	58 <i>1</i>	56 <i>2</i>	56 <i>2</i> · 0 <i>1</i>	742,891

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.	RAILWAYS.		
Belgian 4 <i>1</i> per cent., —	East Belgian Junct. 2 <i>1</i> —3 <i>1</i> dis.		
Brazilian 5 per cent., 99 <i>2</i>	Great W. of Canada, 2 <i>1</i> —2 <i>2</i>		
Chilian 6 per cent., —	Great Luxembourg, 3 <i>2</i> —3 <i>3</i>		
Danish 5 per cent., 101 <i>1</i>	Northern of France, 3 <i>5</i> —3 <i>5</i>		
Dutch 2 <i>1</i> per cent., 63 <i>1</i> —64	Norwegian Trunk Prof., 6 <i>1</i> —7 <i>2</i>		
Dutch 4 <i>1</i> per cent., 9 <i>2</i>	Paris and Orleans, 4 <i>3</i> —4 <i>5</i>		
Mexican 3 per cent., 10 <i>2</i>	Paris and Lyons, 4 <i>5</i> —4 <i>5</i>		
Peruvian 4 <i>1</i> per cent., 74 <i>1</i> —4	Paris and Rouen, —		
Portuguese 4 per cent., 45	Rouen and Havre, —		
Russian 4 <i>1</i> per cent., 95 <i>1</i> —96	West Flanders, 3 <i>2</i>		
Spanish 3 per cent., 39 <i>3</i> —3 <i>3</i>	West of France, 2 <i>9</i> —3 <i>0</i>		
Sardinian 5 per cent., 85—86			

MINES.

Linares	7 <i>1</i> —7 <i>2</i>	Quartz Rock	5 <i>1</i> —5 <i>2</i>
Nouveau Monde	5 <i>1</i> —5 <i>2</i>	St. John Del Rey	—

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.	BANKS.		
Australian	1—1	Australasian	90—92
Colonial Gold	—	Eng. Scott, and Aust. 15 <i>1</i> —16 <i>1</i>	—
Great Nugget	4—4	Lond. Chart. of Aust. 18 <i>1</i> —19 <i>1</i>	—
Port Philip	4—4	South Australian	39—41
South Australian	3—2	Union of Australia	72—74

RAILWAYS.

Bombay and Baroda par..	1 <i>1</i> —1 <i>1</i>	Australasian Pacific	—
East Indian	20 <i>2</i> —21	Australian Royal Mail	5
Do, Extension	4—4	Eastern Steam Navig.	—
Indian Peninsula	—	General Screw St. Ship	16
Madras	18 <i>2</i> —19	Pen. & Orient. St. Nav.	68

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural 2 <i>5</i> —2 <i>6</i>	North Brit. Australian 5—6		
Van Diemen's Land ... 1 <i>2</i> 1 <i>5</i>	Peel River Land ... 2 <i>2</i> —2 <i>4</i>		
South Australian Land 3 <i>1</i> 2 <i>6</i>	Scottish Austr. Invest. 1 <i>3</i> —1 <i>5</i>		

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.
CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Week ending—	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 27	7 <i>8</i> 4	3 <i>5</i> 6	2 <i>8</i> 8	5 <i>1</i> 1	5 <i>1</i> 1	4 <i>8</i> 0
Nov. 3	8 <i>0</i> 3	3 <i>9</i> 0	2 <i>8</i> 0	5 <i>1</i> 3	5 <i>0</i> 8	5 <i>1</i> 2
— 10	8 <i>0</i> 5	3 <i>9</i> 0	2 <i>8</i> 4	5 <i>2</i> 0	5 <i>1</i> 11	5 <i>1</i> 4
— 17	8 <i>0</i> 10	3 <i>9</i> 11	2 <i>8</i> 0	5 <i>2</i> 10	5 <i>2</i> 0	5 <i>0</i> 4

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	7 <i>4</i> to 8 <i>4</i>			
Malting Barley	4 <i>2</i> —4 <i>5</i>			
Oats, best,	2 <i>7</i> —3 <i>4</i>			
Wheat, White,	8 <i>5</i> —9 <i>3</i>			
Flour—				
Town made, per sck.	7 <i>5</i> —7 <i>7</i>			
Country household	6 <i>8</i> —6 <i>9</i>			
American, per barl.	4 <i>2</i> —4 <i>6</i>			
Indian Corn, per qr.	4 <i>6</i> —4 <i>8</i>			
BREAD, per 4 lbs.—	d. d.			
Best Wheat	1 <i>1</i> to 1 <i>1</i> ½			
Household	9—10 <i>½</i>			
CATTLE—	s. d. s. d.			
Beasts, per st.	3 to 5 <i>2</i>			
Calves	3 6—4 8			
Sheep	3 6—5 2			
Pigs	3 10—5 0			
Wool, per lb.—				
South Down	0 11 <i>½</i> —1 3			
Kentish fleeces	1 0—1 1 <i>½</i>			
German Primula	2 6—3 6			
Australian	1 3—2 2			
Cape	0 7—1 7			
Spanish	1 1—2 0			

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 12 <i>0</i> .			
Iron, Pigs, 3 <i>1</i> lbs. to 5 <i>1</i> lbs.			
Rails, 8 <i>1</i> lbs. Lead, English			
Pig, 2 <i>5</i> lbs. Steel, Swedish			
Keg, 10 <i>1</i> lbs. to 10 <i>2</i> lbs.			
Tin, English block, 12 <i>0</i> .			
Banca, 12 <i>0</i> ; Spider, 2 <i>3</i> lbs.; Quicksilver, per lb., 1 <i>0</i> lb.			

PROVISIONS.

BEEF—Irish In., per tr., 150 <i>s.</i> ; Hambur' 12 <i>s.</i> to 12 <i>5</i> s. ; American, 12 <i>5</i> to 150 <i>s.</i>			
BACON, per cwt.—Irish, 6 <i>s.</i> to 6 <i>6</i> s. ; American, 6 <i>s.</i> to 5 <i>8</i> s.			
BUTTER—Dorset, p. cwt., 11 <i>4</i> s. to 12 <i>0</i> s. ; Irish, 9 <i>8</i> s. to 11 <i>2</i> s. ; Dutch, 9 <i>0</i> s. to 9 <i>4</i> s.			
CHEESE—Cheshire, per ewt., 6 <i>s.</i> to 8 <i>s.</i> ; Wiltshire, 5 <i>6</i> s. to 7 <i>4</i> s. ; Derby, 5 <i>6</i> s. to 6 <i>0</i> s.			
HAMS—York, 8 <i>s.</i> to 11 <i>0</i> s. ; Irish, 8 <i>0</i> s. to 8 <i>6</i> s. ; Westphalia, 7 <i>2</i> s. to 7 <i>4</i> s.			
BEER—Mid. to prime, p. 1 <i>lb.</i> , 3 <i>2</i> d. to 4 <i>6</i> d.			
MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per 1 <i>lb.</i> , 2 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>			
PORK, per 1 <i>lb.</i> , 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			
VEAL, 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>			
LAMB, 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>			
POTATOES, per ton, Scotchred, 9 <i>s.</i> to 11 <i>s.</i> ; Regts, 10 <i>s.</i> to 11 <i>s.</i>			

GROCERY.

COCOA, per cwt., Trinidad, 5 <i>5</i> s. to 6 <i>1</i> s. ; Bahia, 5 <i>1</i> s. to 5 <i>3</i> s.			
COFFEE, per cwt.—Ceylon Native, 5 <i>5</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>6</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> ; Do., Plantation, 7 <i>1</i> s. to 8 <i>2</i> s. ; Mocha, 8 <i>s.</i> to 9 <i>s.</i> ; Jamaica, 6 <i>s.</i> to 8 <i>s.</i>			
RICES, per cwt.—Carolina, duty paid, 2 <i>8</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>8</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bengal, 15 <i>1</i> s. to 18 <i>1</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i>			
SUGAR—Barbadoes, per cwt., 6 <i>0</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>5</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> ; Mauritius, 6 <i>0</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>5</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bengal, 6 <i>1</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>9</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i>			
DO, REFINED—Grocery lumps, 7 <i>1</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 7 <i>4</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> ; Bastards, 6 <i>1</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>9</i> s. 6 <i>d.</i> ; Crushed, 5 <i>8</i> s.			

TEA, per lb. (duty 1*s.* 9*7* d.)

Congon, 9 <i>4</i> d. to 2 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> ; Souchong, 9 <i>d.</i> to 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Hyson, 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Assam, 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies	British America	United States	Other places	Total.
To Sept. 30	50,544	15,259	79,072	2,151	147,026
October	3,269	21	7,779	242	11,311
Total to Oct. 31	53,813	15,280	86,851	2,393	158,337

	London and Liverpool.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£20 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £21	4 <i>0</i> to 4 <i>5</i>	
Sydney	40 — 60	18 — 32	15 — 20	30 — 40	
Adelaide	30 — 60	20 — 35	18 — 21	30 — 40	
Hobart Tn.	40 — 65	25 — 35	20 — 22	30 — 40	

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1855.]

FROM THE 28TH NOVEMBER TO THE 27TH DECEMBER.

{ PRICE 2d.
{ STAMPED 3d.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

PARLIAMENT, which stood prorogued to the 11th inst., has been further prorogued to the 31st of January, then to meet for the despatch of business.

It appears from a recent Parliamentary return that some of the collectors of Income-tax get enormous incomes by the poundage. There are 122 collectors who receive 200*l.* and upwards; in the aggregate they are paid 66,562*l.* The collectors appear to be paid at the same rate of poundage under the enhanced tax as before, —swelling their remuneration to an astonishing figure: Mr. Richard Till received 2967*l.* in 1853; 5788*l.* in 1854. One collector received 2813*l.* in 1854, another 1300*l.*, a third 1710*l.*, a fourth 3042*l.* In contrast to these overgrown payments, a correspondent of the *Times* states that a collector at Burnham, for much labour, gains but 13*l.* a-year, and that only if he happens to incur no losses.

Sir Robert Peel, at a dinner given to the retiring mayor of Tamworth, made a speech respecting the *Naval Management of the War*, which, as coming from a Lord of the Admiralty, has excited some surprise. Speaking for the ministers his colleagues, he said, that however determined the government may be in carrying on the war, it will be useless unless we have fitting agents abroad to carry out the policy of Lord Palmerston. Eight or nine millions had been spent on the Baltic fleet last year, yet that fleet had not answered the expectations of the public. Again, take the fleet in the Black Sea. Admiral Dundas had been recalled before Lord Palmerston came into office. Admiral Dundas is a brave man; but he had to give way to Admiral Lyons, who it was thought would inspire more vigour into the actions of the fleet. Sir Robert did not believe that such had turned out to be the case, but they expected more from Admiral Lyons, because his fleet was twice as large as that under the command of Admiral Dundas. Admiral Lyons had six first-class steam-ships, thirteen steam-frigates, twenty steam-sloops, besides mortar-vessels and other kinds of boats; and in addition to all these, six or seven sail-of-the-line. Now, Nelson with thirteen sail-of-the-line gained the battles of the Baltic and the Nile; and Sir Robert thought they would agree with him that all had not been accomplished by Admiral Lyons in the Black Sea which might have been. (*A Voice*—“*The enemy would not come out!*”) It was said that the enemy would not come out, and that might be perfectly true; yet, notwithstanding, he must say that, whether right or wrong, the people expected, after the enormous outlay incurred on the fleet, much more would have been done. In the last war the sailing-vessels had to manoeuvre and work their way in to attack the enemy’s forts, and to make their escape the best way they could, and then there was no hesitation in attacking forts; but now, when, by the aid of steam, a vessel might get beyond the reach of harm in five minutes, our vessels had not been (with one single exception) within 2000 yards of the enemy’s batteries. 2000 yards was the respectful distance they kept, and it was at this range that Sweaborg was attacked. This was not the way in which Nelson and Exmouth acted. They all knew the way in which Nelson attacked the famous Dutch [Danish] three-crown battery; and at Algiers Lord Exmouth went in with five sail of the line, five frigates, four bomb-vessels, and one or two

other small vessels, making altogether sixteen; and he did not stop at a distance of 2000 yards, but within 200 yards of the muzzles of the enemy’s guns he attacked and captured the place. Captain Townshend, the other member for Tamworth, regretted that his colleague, who spoke so well on most matters, had not made himself better acquainted with naval affairs. The navy (he said) have done a great deal, and, with proper appliances, they would yet do a great deal more; and he should look to Sir Robert for a supply of gun-boats and mortar-boats; and if there was not a sufficient number provided, he should call him to account the next time they assembled there. This remark was received with cheers and laughter.

The *Treaty concluded on the 21st of November, between France, England, and Sweden*, has been published. It is declared that the treaty is concluded to prevent every complication of a nature to trouble the balance of power in Europe. By article 1 the King of Sweden engages himself not to cede to Russia, nor to exchange with her, nor to allow her to occupy, any portion of the territories belonging to the crown of Sweden and Norway. His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway engages himself, moreover, not to cede to Russia any right of pasture or fishing ground, or of any other nature whatsoever, as well for the said territories as for the coast of Sweden and Norway, and to reject any claim (*prétention*) Russia might raise to establish the existence of any of the abovenamed rights. Art. 2. In case Russia should make any proposition to his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, or any demand with a view to obtain either the cession or exchange of any portion whatever of territory belonging to the Crown of Sweden and Norway, be it the permission to occupy certain points of the said territory, or the cession of fishing or pasture rights, or of any other on those same territories, or on the coast of Sweden and Norway, his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway engages himself to communicate immediately such proposition to his Majesty the Emperor of the French and to her Majesty the Queen of England; and their said Majesties take on their part the engagement to provide his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway with sufficient naval and military forces to co-operate with the naval and military forces of his said Majesty, with a view to resist the claims or aggressions of Russia. The nature, the importance, and the destination of the forces in question shall, the case occurring, be decided by a common agreement between the Three Powers.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

An action for *Criminal Conversation* was tried in the Court of Common Pleas on the 3rd instant. The plaintiff was Mr. Hawker, a Devonshire gentleman; the defendant Sir Henry Seale, a major in the Devon Militia. Mrs. Hawker, formerly Miss Polkinghorn, married Captain Murray, who was killed in the Caffre war. On her return to England she married Mr. Hawker. Unfortunately, although much attached to each other, they perpetually quarrelled about trifles, and separated in the end. In 1854, however, Mrs. Hawker made advances toward a reconciliation, and wrote a tender appeal to her husband, promising that there should be

no more temper on her part, and that she would try to win back that affection that seemed to be gone from her. Friends were despatched to bring about a reunion of husband and wife; but in the meantime, Sir Henry Seale, a married man with a family, appeared on the scene, and won the wife's affections. Mrs. Hawker lodged at the house of a Miss Spurling at Clifton. Here Sir Henry paid her frequent visits; occupied a dressing-room adjoining her bedroom; dined with her; staid in the house until midnight, sometimes all night. On one occasion his red sash was found on Mrs. Hawker's bed. Miss Spurling said, that so long as her rent was paid, what went on did not concern her. The evidence, in one instance direct, led to the belief that the husband had been wronged. He only sought damages sufficient to enable him to obtain a divorce. The defence was limited to the efforts of Sir Frederick Thesiger to make out that the evidence for the prosecution was weak and inconclusive. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, and awarded him 100*l.* damages.

The Court for the Consideration of Crown Cases Reserved has *Quashed the Conviction of Cosmo Gordon for Felony* in not surrendering to a flat in bankruptcy. At the trial, eight legal objections were reserved; the judges soon decided seven against the prisoner, but they took time to consider the eighth, and even had it reargued before them. The eighth objection was, that only one copy of the notice of adjudication of bankruptcy was left at the counting-house of Davidson and Gordon, whereas there ought to have been two, one for each partner: on the back of the document was a form of protection from arrest; "each bankrupt," said Mr. Chambers, "had a right to a copy which he might carry in his pocket." Lord Campbell, Barons Parke and Alderson, and Justices Cresswell, Williams, and Crompton, held that two notices should have been left at the bankrupt's place of business; Lord Chief-Judge Jervis, Baron Platt, and Justices Erle and Willes, thought one notice sufficient. After this acquittal, they were indicted for obtaining goods under false pretences within three months of their bankruptcy. The charge was sustained by the evidence, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty. In passing sentence, Mr. Justice Coleridge said, that in the present case he saw no circumstances of mitigation to call upon him not to pass the extreme sentence under the act of Parliament upon which the indictments were framed; and it was therefore his duty to pass upon them the full sentence of the law—that they be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for two years.

At Stafford Assizes, on the 3rd inst., the Grand Jury, to the astonishment of every one, *Ignored the Bill of Indictment against Alice Grey*. Mr. Scotland applied to Mr. Justice Williams to detain the accused till another indictment could be prepared; her counsel resisted this as quite unprecedented; and eventually the judge ordered her to be liberated. She was immediately arrested on a charge of perjury at Birmingham. When produced before the Birmingham magistrates on the 5th, charged with committing perjury in accusing a man of robbing her in October last,—she was remanded, as a government notice had been received that she was to be taken to Wolverhampton to meet a charge there.

A most daring *Robbery with Violence* has been committed at Walworth. Mr. Towell, a middle-aged gentleman, at four o'clock in the afternoon was asked for alms in the street by a man of colour; he gave it; a few minutes after, as Mr. Towell was opening his gate at Brunswick-terrace, he was knocked down by a tremendous blow on the head, which rendered him insensible; and then his gold watch, chain, and seals were violently torn from his pocket. Two boys saw the man of colour and three other fellows knock down Mr. Towell and run off with the booty. The coloured man has been apprehended. Mr. Towell was suffering from nervous headache at the time of the robbery, which gave him the appearance of having been drinking, and doubtless induced the robbers to select him as a victim.

The Reverend Vladimir Petcherine has been tried at the Dublin Commission Court, on the charge of *Burning the Bible* at Kingstown. A boy named James Hamilton was included in the indictment. The trial began on the 7th instant, and occupied two days. In his opening

speech for the prosecution, Mr. Keogh described how Petcherine had exhorted the people of Kingstown to abandon and bring to him books of an immoral tendency. Among the numbers of books brought in were several copies of the Bible and New Testament. Were these volumes included in the attacks made on the licentious press? Why were they brought, unless included? The books were burnt, the Bible and Testament among them, in the most open manner; and if they were knowingly burnt, the law was so clear that there could be no doubt Petcherine had committed an offence. The attorney-general then described at some length the relation of the Bible to the administration of justice. "From the humblest individual who is called to attest to any fact, to the sovereign who sits on the throne, there is no security for anything except what is based on the authorized version of the Scriptures. The law as laid down by our greatest authorities, and as it has been recognised and established in our recent cases, is thus stated—'Offences immediately against God are by common law indictable; as all blasphemy against God, denying His being or providence; all profane scoffing of the Holy Scriptures, or exposing any part thereof to contempt or ridicule.' " The offence was equally committed whether the Bible were the Douay version, the Rheinish version, or the authorised version. The evidence for the prosecution was then taken. Christopher Duff, a boy engaged in the business, deposed, that, at the request of Father Petcherine, he had wheeled a barrow full of books from the Father's lodgings to the courtyard of the chapel. Another boy wheeled a second barrow. When Father Petcherine arrived, the books were tumbled out; and the Father, giving order that they should be set on fire, went away towards the vestry. A crowd of persons had collected. The fire was not lighted until the Father had gone. When the Father came back, the books were well burnt, but not consumed. Henry Lawson, labourer, said that he saw, among the books, Byron's Poems, some tracts, a New Testament, a Prayer-book, and a Bible. Mr. W. T. Darkin, a Sub-Inspector of Factories, and Policeman Halpin, deposed that they saw a Bible and Testament in the fire; and the Reverend R. Wallace, Dissenting minister, produced a portion of the books of Deuteronomy and Joshua which he had rescued from the flames. For the defence, Mr. O'Hagan described the accused as one who, though a stranger, had resided in this country long enough to make him one of ourselves. For fourteen or twenty years he had been an alien from his native land, where he had abandoned a high position for conscience sake. The indictment charged against the accused a matter of fact and a matter of intention. The counsel resisted both. His client had only endeavoured, in discharge of a religious duty, to put an end to the circulation of immoral publications in Kingstown, and had required them to be delivered at his lodgings. They were sent in multitudes, and he directed them to be burnt. It would have been better had they not been publicly burnt. There is not any evidence to show that he was cognisant of the presence, among the many books that were consumed, of the Bible and Testament—the only Bible and Testament that had been distinctly referred to. He was for a few minutes not very close witness of the burning; and all the fragments in the world proved nothing against him, when it was considered that great opportunities existed for other persons to have thrown Bibles into the heap. Mr. O'Hagan denied that the Roman Catholic Church is the enemy of the Scriptures. From the time when the early Christians took shelter in the Catacombs at Rome to this day, the Church has preserved the Scriptures. The monks perpetuated and spread them through the earth; and the Church called it preëminently "*the Book*." When printing was invented, the first employment of the press on any great and important scale was in the production of that Massarene Bible which is a miracle to later times. The only witness produced on behalf of the accused was called to show the nature of those discourses in which he had asked for books. But this testimony was rejected by the court; and the counsel for the defence therefore closed their case. Baron Green summed up; and, after deliberating for three-quarters of an hour, the jury returned a verdict

of acquittal. This announcement was received with the most vociferous applause, which was taken up by the crowds assembled outside; who interspersed their exclamations of delight with groans for the attorney-general and her Majesty's law-officers. The jury was composed of five Protestants and seven Roman Catholics; the foreman was a member of the Established Church. James Hamilton, a boy concerned in the burning of the books, was tried on Monday, and acquitted. Edward Haydon, an ardent disciple of Father Petherine, was tried on the 10th, for assaulting one of the witnesses for the prosecution. He was found guilty, but strongly recommended to mercy. Baron Green sentenced him to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. The streets in the neighbourhood of the court were illuminated in commemoration of the acquittal of Petherine.

At Durham, on the 7th inst., the trial began of Mr. Joseph Snaith Wooler, who has been in custody for the last three months on suspicion of having wilfully *Murdered his Wife*, by administering poison to her during a very long illness. The trial lasted several days, and excited the greatest interest. The following is a summary of the facts. Mrs. Wooler, the deceased, was the daughter of a medical man, and married the prisoner eighteen years ago. They resided for some time in India. About seven years since they came to live at Burdon, near Darlington. She never was of robust health, but experienced no serious illness till the 8th of May last, when she was seized with vomitings. Dr. Jackson, a medical man, was then called in, and attended her till her death, on the 17th of June. His assistant, Mr. Henzell, saw her on the 16th of May, but not again till the 4th of June, and thence continually till her death. Her illness continued, accompanied by diarrhoea. On the 7th of June, the symptoms of the patient attracted Dr. Jackson's attention, and he began to suspect that she was labouring under arsenical poison,—restlessness, faintness, severe hiccough, intense thirst, besides purging and vomiting, which went on as usual. On the 8th of June, Dr. Hazlewood, of Darlington, was called in, but Dr. Jackson did not communicate his suspicions to him. Consumption being apprehended, her lungs were examined, but nothing wrong could be discovered in them. Dr. Jackson treated the case as one of influenza. The three medical men continued their attendance till her death, on Wednesday, the 27th of June. For fourteen days before her death their attention was attracted by certain indications. On Friday, the 29th, a *post-mortem* examination took place, from which they concluded the cause of death to be an irritant poison. A portion of the viscera was tested by Dr. Richardson, and he detected the presence of arsenic. An inquest was held on the 30th of June, and, by adjournment, on the 13th of July. The conclusion of the inquest jury was that the deceased died of poison, but no person was charged with administering it. Soon after Mr. Wooler was apprehended on this charge. The body was exhumed on the 4th of August, and a portion of the viscera was sent to Dr. Taylor, of London, who had no doubt of the presence of arsenical poison in it, apparently administered from time to time in small portions in solution. Dr. Richardson, of Newcastle, also tested a portion of the viscera, and detected the presence of arsenic. The symptoms exhibited during her illness also indicated death by slow poison. The bottles containing the remains of medicine which had been administered were also submitted to competent persons, and in those remains no traces of poison could be discovered. The poison, it was urged, must have been administered by some person of skill. The deceased objected to the attendance of a nurse, and none was engaged. Two friends, Miss Middleton and Miss Lanchester, frequently saw her during her illness. These two ladies, with the exception of the prisoner's brother, were the only persons about the deceased during her illness. To use poison in the way in which it must have been administered to the deceased required skill and knowledge in the subject of poisons, the evidence given of Mr. Wooler's own conversation went to show that he possessed both knowledge and skill. He was about her during the whole of her illness, with the exception of one day, the 20th of June. He administered

injections and other medicines. On two occasions the prisoner produced to Dr. Hazlewood and Dr. Jackson a small basket containing bottles, one of which was labelled "Fowler's arsenic," a well-known preparation of arsenic. They spoke to him on the subject of this arsenic, but the bottle which contained it had disappeared. At the inquest it was sent for from the prisoner's house. Several bottles were brought back. This could not be found. Enemas were employed for administering injections. The prisoner had a syringe of pewter, which was used. On one occasion the elastic pipe got stopped up. The prisoner borrowed a syringe of Mr. Fothergill, a medical man. No other syringe was used till her death. Fothergill's syringe was then returned to him. Some time after, when this matter became talked about, Mr. Fothergill examined this syringe. The pipe was stopped up. It was carefully examined by him, and in his opinion arsenic was there. His test, it was admitted, was not a safe one; but a further and more accurate examination showed a greater quantity of arsenic than the test could contain. The conduct of the prisoner, however, showed no indications of a desire to get rid of his wife. Throughout her illness, and during her last days, he attended upon her by day and night with the most affectionate solicitude. They had always lived together upon the most affectionate terms, and no pecuniary reason existed why he should desire her death, neither was any suggestion thrown out that he wished to dismember himself of his wife, that he might contract a fresh marriage or form any illicit connection. It was not, however, until several times urged by Dr. Jackson that he consented to further advice being called. It was stated by the medical witnesses, that among other undoubted symptoms of arsenic having been taken there is tingling of the hands. On the 23rd of June Dr. Hazlewood ascertained from deceased herself the existence of this symptom. It was not till the same day that the prisoner, who had seen the deceased after she had told the circumstance to Dr. Hazlewood, told them. In his presence the medical men asked her how long she had this tingling. She answered, "Three or four days." He remarked it was not so long. She replied that it was, and that she had requested him to inform the doctors, but he had forgotten it. Mr. Henzell examined the deceased's stools and urine before the 22nd and after the 23rd of June. On the former day Mr. Henzell went to the coach-house, where the urine was usually kept for examination, but he could find none. He asked prisoner for some. A bottle of urine was sent on that day, but it differed in character from what he had examined previously or subsequently. The servant girl on the 22nd brought the urine from the coach-house into the kitchen, whence prisoner himself conveyed the bottle to Mr. Henzell. Many other slighter circumstances of suspicion were urged against the prisoner, amongst them his apparent indifference when his wife's death was evidently approaching, his not attending her funeral, the different accounts of the nature of her illness which he wrote to her relations, and an incorrect statement of the cause of death made by him to the registrar. Yet throughout these suspicious occurrences, nothing in the shape of motive could be traced, and the whole of the evidence failed to suggest any. Mr. Sergeant Wilkins, who conducted the defence, insisted that Mrs. Wooler's death was to be ascribed only to the infamous conduct of the medical attendants of the deceased. "Had they," said Sergeant Wilkins, "divulged in time the suspicions they entertained on the 7th of June, she might have been saved. They say that the poison must have been administered by a person of skill. What says Dr. Taylor? He says that the poison might have been administered 'or taken.' He drew the distinction between administering by skill and taken by mistake. They say the poison must have been administered by a person of skill who had the means. Dr. Jackson, Dr. Hazlewood, and Mr. Henzell were each such persons. Why should not they be accused? It may be said, they had no motive; no more had he; his motives were all the other way." Sergeant Wilkins rebutted the accusation of indifference, and demonstrated from the evidence that the prisoner's conduct proved quite the contrary. It was said that the prisoner

was unwilling to call in proper medical aid, but it was shown that he had done so. "Dr. Jackson suspected poison on the 7th. On the 8th he told the prisoner he believed she was consumptive. He admits that doctors do now and then cheat each other. If the prisoner was poisoning her, why, when he got Dr. Jackson, who attributed her illness to natural causes, did he call in other medical aid? Generally speaking, a criminal is a coward, and seeks to conciliate the man who can detect his guilt. Yet the prisoner abuses Dr. Jackson, and speaks of him in terms of anger. The prisoner requests Dr. Hazlewood to write out a history of his wife's symptoms, to be sent to his nephew, in order to be laid before Sir John Fife. Dr. Hazlewood was requested to give a faithful statement. He left out the last symptom—the tingling of the hands. Why did he suppress it?" After refuting other points that had been urged as establishing the prisoner's guilt, Serjeant Wilkins dwelt upon the absence of motive, and upon the affection which the prisoner had shown towards his wife, and upon the safer and surer means that were within his reach had he resolved to poison her. They loved each other tenderly. Every witness has testified to this. I grant that a mask may be worn for a short time, but not for twenty years. Miss Brecknell resided in the house, and has been there since. She came down to nurse her sister. She believes the prisoner innocent. She never saw anything but kindness between them. They say that the prisoner was well acquainted with drugs. But if he was, why did he administer arsenic at all? No poison is so easily detected. He had strichnine, which is much more difficult to discover. If he was well acquainted with poisons he knew all the symptoms of arsenic. Why did he call in a doctor at all? His wife resisted it. He furnishes the medical attendants with her vomits and evacuations. "I kept a book in which I entered all her symptoms." Can it be said that any entry is incorrect. He informs the doctors of tetanic spasms? He consents to the *post-mortem* examination. After the inquest he causes portions of the body to be examined at his expense by Professor Taylor. They have not shown that he ever purchased any arsenic. The bottles were long kept in the house, and any body might have access to them. The verdict of the coroner's jury, that Mrs. Wooler died by poison, is the only verdict to which any jury can come. By whom administered it has not been shown. Mr. Baron Martin summed up with some observations upon the case and the evidence. It is clear, he said, that the prisoner had a large collection of drugs in his possession, and Fowler's solution was among them. At the inquest it is said that his bottle was not produced, but no importance appears to have been then attached to the circumstance. It does not appear but that, if the prisoner had been asked about it, he could have produced it or given an explanation of it. The next circumstance relied on was that the prisoner had not furnished proper medical advice for his wife. Having called in Dr. Jackson, he finds fault with him. The next matter urged was that the prisoner kept a book in which he entered his wife's symptoms. We may assume that no entry appears to make against him, or it would have been read. The next matter is very important. It is that the doctors having desired the prisoner to communicate to them the tingling of the hands if it should occur, he omitted to do so. Upon this point the counsel for the prosecution has been misinstructed. Dr. Jackson and Dr. Hazlewood say they never so requested the prisoner to inform them of this, neither do they agree as to the exact time or manner in which the prisoner did communicate the circumstance. The learned counsel for the prisoner has spoken in harsh terms of the medical witnesses. I do not adopt those terms, but it does seem to me that their conduct, as detailed by themselves, was reprehensible. But people are often wise after the event, and I believe that those witnesses now think that their suspicions were stronger at the time than they really were. Why did they not sooner find out this symptom of tingling of the hands by asking Mrs. Wooler herself? If they suspected that arsenic was being administered, they should have gone before a magistrate, instead of simply using twice an antidote. The learned judge commented severely upon Dr. Jack-

son's statement, that he had withheld from Dr. Hazlewood his suspicions. I think that Mr. Henzell was the first to suspect, and that the others did not pay much attention to his suspicions. The supposed substitution of another person's urine might have been a mistake. The conduct of the prisoner at the time of his wife's death is said to have been improper. I would recommend you not to attach much weight to it. Different men have different modes of evincing their feelings. There remains the discovery of the arsenic in the enema pipes. How it got there is involved in more mystery than I have met with in any other case. No motive is suggested. The prisoner's supposed knowledge of drugs is a two-edged sword. He pays Dr. Taylor for examining parts of the body. He does not evade the charge by absconding. The law requires not suspicion only, but plan and natural consequences, not far-fetched ones, from the evidence. It is for you to say, whether you can safely come to the conclusion that the prisoner administered the arsenic. I am unable. I may observe that, if I were to make a surmise, there is a person upon whom my fancy would rest rather than upon the prisoner. The jury retired, and after an absence of ten minutes returned with a verdict of *Not Guilty*. The learned judge said—The country are indebted to you for your great attention, and I myself feel extremely thankful for the care you have bestowed. I would have interfered sooner, but thought it more satisfactory to allow the case to be fully heard.—A correspondence has taken place between Dr. Jackson, of Darlington, and Mr. Baron Martin, in reference to the above case. Dr. Jackson asks Baron Martin to explain the meaning of his closing expression respecting the probable guilt of another person rather than the prisoner, being of opinion, as he (Dr. Jackson) was the principal medical man examined in the case, and upon whose conduct Baron Martin strongly animadverted, that his lordship's words may mean either that he gave the deceased poison wilfully or through culpable neglect. Baron Martin replies as follows:—"Sir, I have to acknowledge your letter of the 17th inst., and I think that, under the circumstances, I ought to depart from the usual and almost universal rule among judges, not to notice such a communication. Your complaint is confined to the expression which you describe as the closing expression of my summing up—viz., 'that there was another person whom I would be inclined to find guilty rather than the prisoner.' I am certain I never made use of such an expression, or anything tantamount to it. It is impossible for me to state with verbal accuracy what I then said; I can be certain of my meaning only. The substance of what I meant to say, and I believe did say, was this—that in a case of presumptive evidence imputing the guilt of murder, the law required the presumptions to be the plain and natural consequences following from the facts proved, and that it was not to be made out by fancy, or surmise, or suspicion, but by facts that amounted to proof; that I had endeavoured in my own mind to arrive at some conclusion on the subject, and that it appeared to me there was no proof against any one; but that if I were to indulge in mere surmises and fancy, not the prisoner but some other person would first occur to my mind. If the entire of what I said upon this subject had been reported, I cannot but think it would have been obvious to any one that I did express what I intended to express, viz., no imputation of guilt upon any one, but a strong illustration of the extreme danger of convicting Mr. Wooler upon any fancy or surmise from the facts and circumstances proved, by suggesting that a fancy or surmise more plausible than could be entertained against Mr. Wooler, though equally insufficient to bring home guilt or the suspicion of it, might be directed against another."

In the Bankruptcy Court, on the 10th inst., Mr. Commissioner Evans gave a decision of some importance in the case of the late bankers, *Strahan and Co.* The assets of Strahan and Co., as bankers were very small, but as navy-agents, trading as Halford and Co., their books showed little deficiency. The creditors of Halford and Co., were naturally anxious that the two businesses should be treated as separate ones. Counsel argued the matter on both sides. Mr. Bugley urged

that the estates were separate—that Mr. Bates was not really a partner in the navy agency—that people did not know that “Halford and Co.” were really Strahan and Co. Mr. Hannen combated this view. Mr. Commissioner Evans had no difficulty in deciding that all the assets must be treated as belonging to one firm only. At an adjourned examination meeting in the case of the same parties on the 11th inst., Mr. Turquand presented a report on their affairs. The bank was one of the oldest on record, dating its origin from the early part of the reign of Charles the Second. In 1813, Robert Snow, William Sandby, and John Dean Paul, formed the partnership. On the death of Mr. Sandby in 1816, the partners were indebted to the bank in a sum of £29,000. Sandby's share was paid off by his executors in 1826; but at that date the debt due by Paul and Snow had increased to £3,600. This debt was to be gradually liquidated; and at the death of the late Sir John Dean Paul the amount had been reduced to £28,500., and farther reduced at the date of the bankruptcy to £23,500. In December, 1851, the respective members of the firm may be considered to have been perfectly solvent as recently as four years back. At that period—namely, December, 1851—the books show an admitted deficiency of £5,542.; which was increased to £10,000. by an advance on the Mostyn colliery, but unencumbered property was possessed by Mr. Strahan worth £100,000., and by Sir John Paul worth £30,000. It was not until 1852 that their connection with the Gandells commenced, and the advances made to those people to carry out their railway and drainage schemes in France and Italy were undertaken for no other profit than a half per cent commission on all payments made, and the expectation of recovering a debt of £1000. which had been considered bad. They were rapidly, however, drawn into the common and fatal course of increasing their loans in order to avoid the necessity of facing the loss already incurred, until, after their credit had been pledged in every possible way, their private property sold, and their customers plundered, they found the amount to have increased to nearly half a million sterling. The actual deficiency of the bank is stated at £62,593.; and of this sum £483,000. is involved in the transactions with the Gandells and the Mostyn collieries. The estimated assets are placed at £27,670.; and if these should be realised, a distribution may be hoped of nearly 4s. in the pound. After the reading of the report, an adjournment took place to the 11th of March.

The convict bankers, *Strahan, Paul, and Bates*, have been removed to the Millbank Penitentiary. Mr. Bates has presented a memorial to the Queen, appealing for mercy on account of the peculiar position which he held in the firm of Strahan and Co. He sets forth the history of his connection with the house. He is in his sixty-sixth year, and has a wife and five young children dependent upon him. In the year 1820 he was appointed a junior clerk in the house of “Snow, Paul, and Paul”; in 1837 he rose to the confidential position of ledger-clerk, with an income of £200. and free apartments in Norfolk Street; in 1841 he was invited to become partner in the firm of “Strahan and Co.”—that is, he was to be called partner, and accept the responsibilities of the position; but he was only to receive £600. a year, and to continue his former duties. He had no important control over the business—in any considerable matters he had to refer persons to the other partners. In 1848 he got his allowance raised to £1000.; he never received any further advantage, and he continued to live economically in his free apartments. In 1852 persons named Gandell began to obtain advances from the bank, without Bates's concurrence or knowledge; these advances were increased; when Bates knew of them he remonstrated, but in vain, for early in 1854 the Gandells had got £100,000. advanced to them. Bates told Sir John Paul that one advance of £40,000. would prove the ruin of the house. In December 1853 he advised that the bank should stop payment; but his partners said they could rely on their resources. Bates was not aware that Dr. Griffith's Danish Bonds had been sold in March 1854, till after the event; Sir John Paul assured him that they should be replaced. From May 1854 to May this year Bates was mostly in Paris, engaged in

endeavouring to obtain money from the Gandells, and he took no active part in the business of the bank. When, in April last, he told Dr. Griffith that his 5000. of Danish Bonds were safe in the bank, he believed that they were—that the former bonds had been replaced by others bought in Dr. Griffith's name. On the 25th April, Bates left London for Paris, and returned on the 9th May; he had no intimation before he left England that his partners were about to raise money on the securities of their customers; a large sum was thus raised whilst he was absent. When Strahan and Paul tendered in the Bankruptcy Court the list of securities disposed of, Bates assented to it, but not as a participant in the operation. Affidavits had been prepared and signed by Strahan and Paul, which they proposed to swear to, but were not permitted, in which they stated the position Bates held, and distinctly admitted that they alone had dealt with the securities. In conclusion, the petition represents—“That your petitioner was not cognizant of, or in any manner, directly or indirectly, privy or assenting to any act of selling, pledging, converting, or using, any of the said securities of the customers of the bank, and deposited with them for safe custody. That your petitioner most humbly submits that, under the circumstances hereinbefore set forth, he is not guilty of the crime of which he has been convicted. And your petitioner humbly prays and implores your Majesty, to take into your gracious consideration the facts and circumstances above set forth, and to extend to your petitioner, now hastening to the close of a life which up to this fatal event had been one of unsullied honour and integrity, your Majesty's most gracious pardon.” The jury who tried this case have addressed a petition to the Queen, stating that, having carefully considered Mr. Bates's petition, they firmly believe that, had its contents been proved at the trial, they would have acquitted Bates. They regret that the statements in the petition were withheld from their consideration; and in order that justice may be done, they pray that the truth of the allegations may be inquired into, and that if they prove correct, her Majesty will grant the prayer of Bates.

At York, on the 11th inst., the Rev. W. D. Beresford, an elderly man, was indicted for *Uttering*, at Bradford, on the 4th of November, 1848, a *Forged Endorsement of a Bill of Exchange* for £100. The case excited much interest from its being known that the prisoner was a clergyman, highly connected, and next heir to a peerage. It appeared that at the latter end of October, 1848, the prisoner called at the Bradford Banking Company's Bank at Bradford, and produced a bill of exchange for £100., drawn on S. Hibbert and Co., of Biliter Square, London, by Marcus Beresford, which he asked the manager of the bank to discount. He gave his own name as the Rev. Mr. Beresford. The manager said he would discount the bill if endorsed by any one whom he knew. The prisoner said he had been on a visit at Birmingham Hall, near Bradford, to Mr. Kay, and asked if that gentleman's endorsement or that of his son would suffice, and the manager replied that he would be perfectly satisfied with either. A day or two afterwards he called at the bank, and asked if there was any letter there addressed to him. One had arrived addressed to him. Out of this letter he took the bill he had before produced, which purported to be endorsed by John Cunliffe Kay, and handed it to the manager. The manager looked at the endorsement doubtfully, and said it did not look like his handwriting, which the prisoner seeing, said Mr. Kay was ill in bed, and had endorsed the bill in bed, which would account for its appearance. The manager then cashed the bill, deducting 14s. for commission and interest. This signature was a forgery, Mr. Kay having positively declined to do so when asked by the prisoner. Mr. Kay's signature had been imitated from a letter the prisoner had obtained from him in answer to one from him. Having obtained the money, the prisoner had not since been heard of until last summer, when Mr. Kay accidentally met him in Regent's Street, London, and gave him into custody. These facts were proved in evidence, and, in addition, the way in which the prisoner obtained a signature of Mr. Kay's to enable him to imitate it. It was as follows:—Mr. J. Cunliffe Kay stated that his

father lived at Manningham Hall. In October, 1848, the prisoner was on a visit there, and afterwards at witness's house, at Fairfield. Prisoner asked witness to discount a bill for him for 1000/- the bill produced—which he refused to do. The endorsement upon it, "John Cunliffe Kay," was not in witness's handwriting. He never gave the prisoner or any other person authority to sign his name to the bill. After the prisoner had left his house, he received a letter from him, asking him to look for a letter, which he thought he had left behind. The letter produced was dated "Bradford, Oct. 28, 1848," and commenced—"My dear Friend,—If the weather has not washed you away, I assume you are at Fairfield." It then proceeded to say:—"I have missed a letter, which I suspect will be found under the cushion in the bedroom, among the flies. Pray let me have a line, directed to Post Office, Bradford, to say whether you can find it." Witness sent an answer to that letter. He heard of this transaction before the bill became due. He had never heard of Mr. Beresford since till the 10th of April last. He had heard that he was a marker at a billiard table. On the 10th of April last, witness met him in Regent Street, London, and said to him, "Mr. Beresford?" He said "Yes." Witness said, "I am afraid I shall have to place you in the hands of the police." The prisoner inquired his name, and witness told him it was Kay. He immediately said, "Have mercy upon me," and that if witness would go to a Mr. Moss the money should be paid to the bank. Witness told him he could do no such thing. Witness then gave him into the custody of a policeman who came up at the time. Mr. Moss called on witness afterwards at his hotel, but witness refused to see him.—Cross-examined: Mr. Beresford had been introduced to him by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Kay, as a relative of hers. He was a cousin of Lord Decies, and next heir to the peerage. Prisoner told witness that he should be Lord Decies in the spring. The prisoner was married, and had a daughter fifteen years of age. Witness never offered to introduce him to the bank; on the contrary, from the look of the bill, he had cautioned his father's bank at Bradford about it. Mr. Hibbert was then called on his subpoena, he having said that he would not appear, let the consequences be what they might. It appeared also that the prisoner had said that he lived at Austin-friars, and that he had been several times in London, and that no attempt had been made to put the Bench warrant out against him in force. It was urged for the defence that the length of time which had elapsed since the commission of the offence had deprived the prisoner of the opportunity of answering the charge which he might have had. Stress also was laid on the high position of the prisoner's family. His counsel also said there was nothing to show that the bill was not a good bill. Mr. Hibbert was not there to prove the contrary, and General Beresford was now in India, and he could not, therefore, be called to prove that he did draw the bill. No search had been made for the prisoner, and the prosecution had no right to assume that he had been out of the way. Throughout the transaction the prisoner had given his own name, and there had been no attempt at concealment.—Mr. Baron Martin disposed of all these objections, observing that the only question was whether the endorsement sworn to by Mr. Kay was forged, and whether the prisoner knowingly uttered that forged endorsement. If so, it was the duty of the jury to find him guilty. The jury did so, and the prisoner was sentenced to be transported for the period of his natural life. On hearing the sentence the prisoner seemed astounded; he staggered, and was removed from the dock supported by the officers. It was rumoured in court that he has a living in Cork of 1000/- a year, which has been sequestered for his debts.

At Winchester Assizes, on the 20th instant, Abraham Baker was tried for the murder of Naomi Kingswell, at Southampton. The particulars of this melancholy case have already been published. There was no question about the facts; witnesses and the prisoner's own statement proved them. The young man was very much in love with the girl; they lived in the same service; she appears after at first returning his affection to have

trifled with him; and, annoyed at his jealousy, to have intimated that she no longer loved him. She would not speak to him. In a passion of jealousy and despair, he bought a double-barrelled pistol, one Sunday morning, went behind Naomi in the kitchen, in the presence of the cook, and fired the pistol—the charge entered the girl's brain. Both Baker and Naomi were well-conducted and very religious persons; Baker was a Wesleyan. His counsel pleaded that he must have been insane when he killed Naomi; but the only witness he called made out no case of insanity. Mr. Baron Parke laid down the law very carefully to the jury: strong passion or jealousy was not insanity. The jury—many of whom were in tears—touched by the simple eloquence of the murderer's confession—returned a verdict of "guilty." The judge, who was also much moved, passed the capital sentence. The prisoner was in a dreadful state during the trial, and after the sentence he was carried out "more dead than alive." The whole trial was a very painful one.

An action, arising out of the late *Fracas at the Windsor Theatre*, has been tried in the Court of Queen's Bench; Mr. Nash, the lessee of the theatre, being the plaintiff, and Lord Ernest Vane Tempest, the defendant. It will be remembered that in September last, Lord Ernest Vane was punished by fine, for an assault on Mr. Nash, behind the scenes of the theatre. The summary conviction by the magistrates had the effect of barring a civil action for assault and battery; the present action, however, was for trespass and damages accruing therefrom. The case having been stated, witnesses were called who proved the fact of the assault, but who, in cross-examination by the attorney-general, admitted that the theatre was improperly managed. Lord Campbell, in summing up, told the jury that the defence set up had entirely failed, and that the only question was as to the amount of compensation to which the plaintiff was entitled. The injury which had been done to the premises was of the most trifling character, and it did not appear that the after season had been rendered less profitable, or that the plaintiff had sustained any loss. Still, had the theatre been properly conducted, he would have been entitled to considerable damages; but such was not the case, as it had been converted into a smoking and drinking-room. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff. Damages, 25l.

Another extraordinary case of *Suspected Poisoning* has occurred. The death of Mr. John Parsons Cook, a gentleman of Rugeley, who kept race-horses and was a betting-man, is attributed by a coroner's jury to poison, administered by William Palmer, a surgeon of that place. It appeared from the very extended investigation before the coroner, that Palmer and Cook were at times partners in betting on horses, and also made bets against each other; there was a bet pending between them at the time of Mr. Cook's death; what was their general position towards each other in money matters is not clear—Mr. Cook's betting-book has mysteriously disappeared. On the 13th November, Mr. Cook was at Shrewsbury Races; his horse Pole-star won a race; Mr. Cook received some 800l. Palmer was with him. While drinking grog at night, Mr. Cook complained that his liquor burnt his throat—there was "something in it;" Mr. Palmer took up the glass, drank about a tea-spoonful of the liquor that remained, and said, "There is nothing in it;" then he asked another person to taste it—when none was left. Soon after, Mr. Cook was seized with sickness: he told a Mr. Fisher that he believed Palmer had "dosed" him; he gave Mr. Fisher 800l. to take care of, saying, "Take care of it, for I believe I have been dosed." Mr. Cook got better. He afterwards hinted to a Mr. Herring that Palmer—"that villain"—had put something in his liquor, and that they had bad betting transactions: he added, "You don't know all." Mr. Herring asked him how he could continue to associate with Palmer. "He again replied in an absent manner, and, walking towards the door, 'Ah! you don't know all.'" Cook and Palmer returned to Rugeley on the 15th November; Cook lodged at the Talbot Arms; he continued to associate with Palmer. On the 18th he was seized with sickness; Palmer attended him; Palmer sent for Mr. Jones, a surgeon at Lutterworth. Mr. Jones could not see any symptoms of

bilious diarrhoea, which Palmer said Cook was suffering from. Mr. Bamford, surgeon, of Rugeley, was also in attendance at Palmer's request. Mr. Bamford prescribed medicines for the patient. On the night of the 21st, soon after he had taken pills administered by Palmer, Mr. Cook was very ill. Palmer was sent for by Mr. Jones; he came with extraordinary speed, bringing two pills which he said contained ammonia. They were given to Mr. Cook. Mr. Jones describes the sequel—"Immediately after taking the pills, Mr. Cook uttered loud screams, and threw himself back on the bed in very strong convulsions. He then requested to be raised up, saying, 'I shall be suffocated.' We endeavoured to raise him up; but he was so stiffened out with spasms that it was impossible to do so. When he found that we could not raise him, he said, 'Turn me over;' and I turned him over on his right side. I listened to the action of his heart, which I found to gradually cease, and in a few minutes he died. I never heard of his having a fit before. I have never seen symptoms so strong before. They were symptoms of convulsions and tetanus; every muscle of the body was stiffened. I cannot say what was the cause of convulsions. My impression at the time was that it was from over excitement." The local surgeons made a post-mortem examination to ascertain the cause of death—but in vain; there were no signs of disease of a mortal nature, nor any of poison having been administered. The viscera were sent to London, and examined by Professor Taylor and Dr. Rees. They could find no traces of poison; they detected antimony in small amount in the various organs and their contents; but antimony is a safe medicine, though enough may be given to kill: the viscera presented no appearance to account for death. But how did the antimony get into the system? Mr. Bamford, who made up the medicines which Mr. Cook ought to have taken, did not use any antimony. Mr. Bamford had sent pills containing calomel; yet no mercury was detected by Professor Taylor and Dr. Rees. After hearing the general evidence, and especially that of the chambermaid who waited on Mr. Cook, Professor Taylor said he was fully prepared to give his opinion of the cause of death—Mr. Cook died from tetanus, caused by medicine given a short time before death; and his opinion was that the medicine contained strichnine. A chemist's apprentice deposed that he sold six grains of strichnine to Palmer on the 20th November. Remarkable evidence was given of Palmer's conduct after Mr. Cook's death: he was seen by the chambermaid looking under the holsters and pillows of the bed, and searching the pockets of the deceased's coat. Mr. Jones said—"Shortly after deceased's death, I left the room; and on my return I found Mr. Palmer with Mr. Cook's coat in his hand. I did not see Mr. Palmer take anything from the coat. He said to me, 'You, as his nearest friend, had better search his pockets, and take possession of what there may be in them.' I searched his pockets, and all I found in them was a purse containing a five-pound note and about 5s. Some conversation took place about the betting-book, and Mr. Palmer said that all the bets were void, and that the book was of no use to any one. Both of us made a slight search for the betting-book, but we did not find it. On Friday, on my return from London, I searched for Mr. Cook's betting-book, but could not find it." Other persons searched in vain. Mr. Cook, a druggist of Stafford, said that Palmer had recently asked him what dose of prussic acid would kill a dog. Palmer did not attend the inquest—he was confined to his bed by indisposition. The jury deliberated for a few minutes, and then found that "the deceased died of poison, wilfully administered to him by William Palmer." Suspicions of foul play are entertained with regard to the deaths of Palmer's wife and brother. The wife's life was insured for 13,000*l.*, which was paid by the office. Palmer induced his brother to insure, and then got possession of the policy; he tried also to insure his brother's life himself, but failed. The brother died. The life-office had inquiries made; and the claim of Palmer seems to have been resisted. It is also said that Palmer tried to insure a "gentleman's" life for 25,000*l.*—the gentleman was his occasional groom.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A DREADFUL *Colliery Accident* happened at a place called Cwmaman, near Aberdare, in South Wales on the 29th ult. One of the pits is worked by the ordinary engine, which lifts and lets down the same shaft, men, horses, minerals, &c. This engine is in charge of a man, whose sole duty is to attend to a signal bell, which gives warning of the approach of the carriages towards the top. The man in charge of the engine left his post about five o'clock in the evening, and his place was taken by another engine-driver, named Lloyd. The man going off duty saw Lloyd lift one carriage laden with men to the pit-head before he left, and Lloyd soon after brought safely to the top two other carriages also laden with colliers leaving their work; and these having alighted, the last batch of men, eight in number, got into the carriage and commenced the ascent. Lloyd himself states that the bell on this occasion did not give the usual signal, and a fearful result followed. The engine continued its speed, and the carriage, instead of stopping at the appointed place, was hurled into the air, and dashed against the pulley-wheel at the top, the chain was instantly broken, and the carriage flung on one side of the pit's mouth. The poor men, when turned out of the carriage, fell headlong into the pit, nearly 250 yards deep, and were dashed to pieces. At the bottom of the shaft is a deep tank of water, which is covered by a frame of wood. Against this the poor fellows were dashed as they went headlong down the shaft, breaking in their fall the woodwork to pieces, five of them going through into the water below. The three other bodies were lying by the side dreadfully mutilated, one having the head completely severed from the body. An inquest has been held, and a verdict of manslaughter returned against Lloyd.

On the 1st instant a coroner's inquest was held on the body of Mr. Leopold James Lardner, assistant librarian at the British Museum, who had committed *Suicide*. On his way, one morning, to the Museum, the horse in his brougham knocked down a man, which greatly agitated him, as he was of very excitable temperament. On arriving at the Museum he refused to pass down a dark passage leading to his office by himself, as he said he was afraid the arches would fall upon him. At length he became so excited that it was necessary that he should be conveyed home. A surgeon was called in, and prescribed for him, and he became better; but it was deemed advisable to keep some one with him. However, he on a sudden very peremptorily ordered the servant girl to quit his room on the second floor, which order she unfortunately obeyed. He then flung himself from the window, and received such frightful injuries that he expired in a few minutes after he was taken up. The jury returned a verdict of insanity.

Mademoiselle Julie, a girl of eighteen, an actress and dancer, died lately at Plymouth after lengthened sufferings, from the effects of burns and nervous shock; her *Costume having caught Fire* from a lamp on the stage while she was dancing before the audience. She supported her mother and a little brother by her exertions, and much sympathy has been excited for her and them.

A fatal *Railway Accident* occurred on the North Kent line on the 7th instant. The up-train had passed the New Cross station, and was crossing the points at the incline which leads to the Bricklayers' Arms station, when the engine suddenly diverged onto the Bricklayers' Arms incline, dragging after it four of the leading carriages. The coupling-chains between the fourth and fifth carriages broke, and the remaining carriages ran up the main line; but, from the shock which they had received, the two or three first got off the rails, and, coming in contact with the dwarf wall at this point, formed an obstruction which had the effect of crushing up three or four of the carriages and completely blocking up both the Greenwich and North Kent Lines. The destruction of the third-class carriages in the train was complete, and the unfortunate passengers were all more or less contused. Those less seriously injured were sent

up the Bricklayers' Arms branch, and medical assistance was summoned to the worst cases. The following are the principal sufferers:—Mr. Thomas F. Allen, confectioner, of High-street, Deptford; W. Priest, gardener, of Brixton-place; R. Hurst, mariner, of West-street, Brixton; J. Todd, of Bermondsey; and Miss Eyre, of Lewisham. The worst case is that of Mr. Allen. Although the accident occurred before six o'clock, this unfortunate man was buried beneath the broken carriages that it was nearly eight o'clock before he was admitted into the hospital. Mr. Clark, one of the chief surgeons of St. Thomas's hospital, immediately saw the case, and felt it his duty to explain to Mr. Allen, that the right leg was so seriously fractured that amputation, and that immediately, was inevitable. Mr. Allen consented to the operation, which was performed by Mr. Clark very shortly after the patient's admission. Mr. Clark, after making a minute examination of the other leg, informed the sufferer it was so seriously injured that the chances of his life being saved if he retained it were extremely remote. The patient, although suffering extreme agony, refused to consent to the removal of this limb, remarking, that he might as well be dead as be deprived of both his legs; but he afterwards submitted to the operation. W. Priest sustained a fracture of the thigh, and some internal injuries. An inquiry into the cause of the accident is going on.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

A REPORT from Dr. Lethby to the City Commissioners of Sewers respecting the shocking *Condition of the Churchyard of St. Andrew, Holborn*, has excited considerable feeling in the city. The soil of the graveyard is from ten to fifteen feet above the level of the road; it is rising higher and higher by the daily addition of fresh bodies, there being three burials, on the average, every day; the gravediggers have found it necessary to support the earth against the railings by means of planks, in order that the soil and the protruding bones may not fall upon the passengers as they travel on the public road. The place is literally crammed with dead bodies; in several parts the coffins are not more than three feet from the surface, and in one case the coffin was found to be covered with less than two feet of earth. During the present year 1020 bodies have been interred in this churchyard, which is considerably less than an acre! In May, 1853, the secretary of state ordered the place to be closed immediately. For some unexplained reason, it was closed but for one day, and since that time the number of interments has been 3000. The result is described in the words of the report addressed by Dr. Lethby to the Commissioners—“Everywhere on the surface of the ground bones and decaying wood were abundantly scattered about, and the soil itself was saturated with decomposing organic matter; indeed, it exhibited in a very marked degree that peculiar oily or unctuous quality which is characteristic of the overcharged soil of the London graveyards. I took away a portion of the earth for experiment, and I place before you the disgusting, feid liquor, which I obtained by a distillation of only two ounces of the soil. This will convince you that churchyard-earth is not so innocent or innocuous a thing as many have supposed.” A copy of the report was ordered to be sent to Sir George Grey immediately.

A Meeting of Shareholders of the *Eastern Counties Railway* was held on the 7th inst. to receive the report of a committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the company. The report gave a gloomy view of the company's condition, and disclosed an almost incredible amount of malversation on the part of Mr. Waddington, the chairman, and some other officials. At the meeting, Mr. Waddington took the chair. From beginning to end, all was strife and confusion. The shareholders fiercely resented the appearance of Mr. Waddington in the chair. Mr. Waddington, grounding himself on his legal right—confirmed by the company's solicitor—held his place, but vainly demanded a hearing. He persisted in speaking; pledging himself to answer the charges in the report; and concluded by moving an

adjournment till the 3rd of January. Mr. E. Ball, M.P., asked whether one who knew in his conscience that he had clean hands, would require seven days or seven hours to answer the accusations? Mr. Pulley moved that the report should be received and adopted. Mr. McLaren moved that the report should be received, and the meeting stand adjourned till the 3rd of January. The amendment was negatived by a vast majority, and the original resolution carried. A poll was demanded, and granted; a step on the part of the chairman followed by twenty minutes of uproar, during which nobody heard what anybody said. Mr. Pulley then moved that Mr. Waddington should no longer be chairman of the company; that his pay should cease from that day, and that he should be requested to resign. On this Mr. Waddington made a stand. He would answer the charges minutely, explicitly, and deliberately, but he required time: he would not abandon his position; let their resolution be what it might, he was their legal chairman until next February. The resolution was carried. Next, the Committee of Investigation was ordered to continue its labours until February next; to confer with the directors, and make suggestions for the administration of the company's affairs. It was resolved “that no order from Mr. Waddington be attended to from the present time.” Here again Mr. Waddington made an ineffectual opposition. The directors who are proved not to have watched over the interests of the shareholders, were to be requested to resign; and votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Bruce, Mr. Broadbent, Mr. Margrave, and Mr. Simpson. At the close of the proceedings the demand for a poll on the first resolution was withdrawn, and the meeting dispersed in confusion.

The Annual *Smithfield Cattle Show* has been held in the Baker Street Bazaar. It has been rather below the average, both in quantity and quality. The usual dinner, with the Duke of Richmond in the chair, took place in the Freemasons' Tavern on the 12th. The chief incident of the evening was the presentation of a handsome testimonial to the secretary, Mr. Bradreth Gibbs, consisting of a candelabrum for six lights, the base surmounted by figures of cattle. In acknowledging the compliment, Mr. Gibbs suggested that the club might enlarge the scope of its exertions. It would be a benefit to the agricultural interest, if, in addition to the prizes offered for animals, prizes were also offered for treatises on the best mode of feeding and managing them; on the chemical qualities of their food, and its action on their systems. They had to deal with nature; and to deal with nature successfully, they must understand its laws.

The members of the *Carlisle Mechanics' Institute* held their anniversary soirée on the 19th inst. In the course of the evening the mayor, Dr. Elliot, took occasion to mention, that the government had invited the municipal representatives of the town to report on the feasibility of establishing a free library in Carlisle. That report had not yet been made, but he had no doubt it would soon be laid before the council. Public attention had recently been drawn to correspondence between Lord Stanley and others in the *Times*, respecting the education of the people. Lord Stanley advocated the formation of large central institutions for that purpose; whilst, on the other hand, a clergyman (whose name his worship did not remember), commenting upon his lordship's proposition, maintained that greater results were to be derived from the encouragement of such institutions as were in existence in Carlisle. He (the mayor) was inclined to the same opinion, because so far the experiment here had worked exceedingly well.

A Supply of Books has been sent from the War Office to the Garrison at Chatham, for the benefit of the soldiers in barracks during the winter evenings, a great many of whom appear to appreciate them. The reading-room is large, well-lighted, and heated by a stove, offering every inducement to the soldier. There are 3000 volumes: those recently added are principally of a military character, offering instructive as well as interesting reading.

The *Juvenile Offenders' Act* of last session is to be brought into immediate operation, by enforcing payment from the criminal parents of juvenile offenders towards

the cost of their support in reformatories. Sir George Grey has appointed Mr. W. Morgan, of Birmingham, a professional gentleman who has shown great interest in the subject of the improved treatment of juvenile crime, to the important functions of agent to the Secretary of State, for the purpose of taking proceedings under the act. This appointment extends over the counties included in the Midland, Oxford, and Western Circuits, and includes nearly all the principal reformatorys at present established in Great Britain.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

The King of Sardinia arrived at Windsor Castle on the 30th ult. Next day his Majesty, accompanied by the Queen and Prince Albert, visited Woolwich; and on the 3rd inst., went with Prince Albert to Portsmouth. The prime event during his stay—his visit to the City—took place on the 4th. The weather was unfavourable, but the streets were lined with spectators, by whom the king was loudly cheered as he passed along. The interior of Guildhall was magnificently decorated for the occasion. When the King arrived, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, receiving him at the door, escorted him to the throne. The spectators all rose; the band of the Blues played the national air of Sardinia, the assembly cheered, and his Majesty bowed right and left. When silence was restored, the Recorder read to his Majesty the address of the Corporation of London. The King read a reply in Italian, speaking with a fine manly voice, and of which the following is a translation: "My Lord Mayor—I offer my heartfelt thanks to you, to the Aldermen and to the Commons of the City of London, for the cordial congratulations which you present to me on the occasion of my visit to her Majesty the Queen and to the British nation. The reception that I meet with in this ancient land of constitutional liberty, of which your address is a confirmation, is to me a proof of the sympathy inspired by the policy I have hitherto pursued—a policy in which it is my intention constantly to persevere. The close alliance existing between the two most powerful nations of the earth is honourable alike to the wisdom of the sovereigns who govern them, and to the character of their people. They have understood how preferable is a mutually advantageous friendship to ancient and ill-defined rivalry. This alliance is a new fact in history, and is the triumph of civilisation. Notwithstanding the misfortunes which have weighed upon my kingdom, I have entered into this alliance, because the house of Savoy ever deemed it to be its duty to draw the sword when the combat was for justice and for independence. If the forces which I bring to the Allies are those of a state not vast, I bring with them, nevertheless, the influence of a loyalty never doubted, and supported by the valour of an army always faithful to the banners of its kings. We cannot lay down our arms until an honourable and therefore durable peace has been secured. This we shall accomplish by seeking unanimously the triumph of true right and the just desires of each nation. I thank you for the good wishes you this day express for my future happiness and for that of my kingdom. While you thus express yourselves with respect to the future, it gives me pleasure to speak of the present, and to congratulate you on the high position attained by Great Britain. This is to be attributed to the free and noble character of the nation, and also to the virtues of your Queen."—A banquet followed; after which the king returned to Buckingham Palace. On the 5th, the king was installed as a knight of the garter; and, on the 6th, set out on his return homewards, by way of France.

A meeting on the subject of a *Testimonial to Miss Nightingale*, was held at Willis's Rooms, on the 29th ult. The room was crowded with distinguished persons. The Duke of Cambridge took the chair, and stated the object of the meeting. There are, he said, various kinds of testimonials, but that proposed for Miss Nightingale would be such as would benefit her fellow creatures. It was proposed that a sum should be raised for the purpose of placing it in her hands, not to build a new hospital, but to establish a school for nurses, partly of a higher order than common, and partly of an ordinary

character, who, when trained by her, may be sent forth to the various hospitals that may require their assistance. The execution of the plan would be left entirely to Miss Nightingale, assisted by a council of her own selection. That is a compliment the public ought to pay. After this introduction, resolutions were moved and seconded by various gentlemen,—the Marquis of Lansdowne, Sir William Heathcote, Sir John Pakington, Sir James Clarke, Lord Stanley, Mr. Monckton Milnes, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Bracebridge, the Duke of Argyll, the Reverend Sidney Godolphin Osborne, Lord Goderich, and Dr. Cumming. Mr. Sidney Herbert told some interesting facts respecting Miss Nightingale. At the time when Miss Nightingale proceeded to the East, there was published, unintentionally—by what accident he knew not—a letter from him to Miss Nightingale, written with all the freedom of friendship and with all the urgency which the circumstances of the time imposed. In that letter he had taken a liberty with the names of Mr. and Mrs. Bracebridge: without any previous consultation, he had said to Miss Nightingale, as a further inducement to her to undertake the task which he was urging upon her—"This I will answer for, Mr. and Mrs. Bracebridge will go out with you;" and this he had said because he knew that in those two persons there existed such a feeling for the high and noble work, such an appreciation of and attachment to the virtues of Miss Nightingale, that he might safely answer for the conduct they would pursue. Other names there were, too, in this glorious band, which might also claim their gratitude; but where all had done so well it would be invidious to select individuals. Miss Nightingale's name was selected only because on her the chief weight of responsibility fell, and through her, therefore, it was that the need of praise which had been achieved ought to be paid. . . . Some years ago he had seen her at the great Lutheran Hospital on the banks of the Rhine, near Dusseldorf,—an establishment out of which no person was allowed to pass to practise as a nurse except after having gone through very severe examinations; and the superintendent of the hospital then told him, that since he had been at the head of it no person had ever passed so distinguished an examination or had shown herself so thoroughly mistress of all she had to learn as Miss Nightingale. Moreover, he had no hesitation in saying that Miss Nightingale in her present position had exhibited greater power of organisation, a greater familiarity with details, while at the same time she took a comprehensive view of the general bearing of the subject, than had marked the conduct of any one connected with the hospitals during the present war. An anecdote which had lately been sent to him by a correspondent showed her great power over all with whom she came into contact. Here was the passage. "I have just heard such a pretty account from a soldier describing the comfort it was to see even Florence pass—'She would speak to one and another, and nod and smile to a many more; but she couldn't do it to all, you know, for we lay there by hundreds; but we could kiss her shadow as it fell, and lay our heads on the pillow again content.'" And his correspondent then very justly remarked—"What poetry there is in these men!" And again—"I think I told you of another, who said 'Before she came there was such cussin' and swearin'; but after that it was as holy as a church.'" He had been told, too, by eyewitnesses, that it was most singular to remark how, when men, frenzied, perhaps, by their wounds and disease, had worked themselves into a passionate refusal to submit to necessary operations, a few calm sentences of hers seemed at once to allay the storm, and the men would submit willingly to the painful ordeal they had to undergo. They could not pretend to offer to such a woman any recompense for her services without lowering their high standard. The only suitable mark of gratitude which could be shown her would be one which would testify the confidence of the English people in her energy, ability, and zeal. Great as was his friendship for Miss Nightingale, he should be merciless to her in one respect. The abilities which she had displayed could not again be allowed to slumber. So long as she lived her labours were marked out for her; the diamond had shown itself, and it must not be

allowed to return to the mine. It was, perhaps, a concomitant disadvantage of all great geniuses, but during her mission at Scutari she had developed talents which must chain her to the oar for the rest of her life; and therefore it was that he hoped an enlarged field of labour would be provided for her, so that she might be enabled to rescue our hospitals from a great disadvantage under which they at present labour, to raise the system of nursing to a pitch of efficiency never before known here, and thus confer incalculable benefits on the country at large. "1. That the noble exertions of Miss Nightingale and her associates in the hospitals of the East, and the invaluable services rendered by them to the sick and wounded of the British forces, demand the grateful recognition of the British people. 2. That it is desirable to perpetuate the memory of Miss Nightingale's signal devotion, and to record the gratitude of the nation by a testimonial of a substantial character; and that, as she has expressed her unwillingness to accept any tribute designed for her own personal advantage, funds be raised to enable her to establish an institution for the training, sustenance, and protection of nurses and hospital attendants. 3. That to accomplish this object on a scale worthy of the nation, and honourable to Miss Nightingale, all classes be invited to contribute. 4. That the sums so collected be vested in trustees to be appointed by the committee, and applied for the purpose expressed in the second resolution, in such manner and under such regulations as Miss Nightingale shall from time to time approve; the subscribers having entire confidence in her experience, energy, and judgment. 5. That with a view to secure, under all circumstances, the appropriation of the funds raised for the purpose expressed in the second resolution, Miss Nightingale be requested to name a council (selected from the committee) to co-operate with her, and who may represent her until her return to this country, or in the event of any suspension of her labours." The sixth resolution appointed a committee of noblemen and gentlemen to carry the other five into effect.

The Earl of Lucan has been rewarded for his services in the Crimea by the Colonely of the Eighth Hussars.

In consideration of the distinguished services of the late Colonel Balfour Ogilvy, who died at Balaklava on the 12th of July last, a colonel's widow's pension has been granted to his widow. Lord Panmure wrote to Mrs. Balfour Ogilvy intimating the grant, and took that opportunity of expressing his regret at the loss to her Majesty of the services of so valuable a life as that of her late husband. Colonel Ogilvy joined Omar Pasha in the field in March, 1854, and from that period up to the time of his death had on different occasions greatly distinguished himself. Lord Hardinge has, without any solicitation, given Colonel Ogilvy's second son an ensigncy, without purchase, in the 34th Regiment.

A public meeting was held on the 13th inst., in the Marylebone Court House, in order to raise funds for a *Testimonial to Mr. Joseph Hume*; Sir Benjamin Hall in the chair. It was a numerous gathering. Among the speakers, besides the chairman, were Mr. Secretary Osborne, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. William Williams, Sir James Duke, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, Mr. Nicholay, and Mr. D'Ifanger. The meeting resolved that a testimonial should be erected to Mr. Hume; that a subscription for that purpose should be set on foot throughout the United Kingdom; and that the manner of expending the money raised should be determined when the subscription is closed. It was also resolved to petition the House of Commons to set up a statue of Mr. Hume in the vestibule of the House. The sum subscribed at the meeting was £140.

A despatch from Lord Clarendon to the President of the Board of Control, dated August 6, and stating the views of the government respecting the *Charges brought against Sir James Brooke*, has been made public. Lord Clarendon states that the government have learned with satisfaction that the inquiry has ended with the complete exculpation of Sir James Brooke from the charges brought against him, while it has brought to light abundant evidence of the beneficial results of his administration of the affairs of Sarawak. But her Majesty's

government agree with the commissioners, "that, without an exact knowledge of the terms which have been finally agreed upon between the Sultan of Borneo and Sir James Brooke, the actual position of Sir James Brooke at Sarawak cannot be determined."

When times were bad for the farmers, Mr. George Lane Fox, of Bramham Park, Yorkshire, allowed his tenants 10 per cent. off their rents: prices are now high, and the tenants have offered to pay 10 per cent. extra on their rents. Mr. Fox has declined the gratifying offer; and advised his tenants to take advantage of their prosperity to improve their farms, so as to meet less easy times. The farmers have requested Mr. Fox to allow his portrait to be painted, to be presented to his wife: he has consented.

At a general meeting of the Royal Academy, the following Academicians have been elected as President and Council for the ensuing year:—President: Sir Charles Lock Eastlake. Council: E. M. Ward, S. Cousins, C. W. Cope, W. Dyee, P. Mac-Dowell, F. R. Lee, J. R. Herbert, Esq., and Sir R. Westmacott. Auditors: Sir R. Westmacott, W. Mulready, Esq., and Sir C. Barry.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

Lady ELIZABETH LANGHAM, widow of the late Sir James Langham, Bart., and only sister of the late Sir Francis Burdett, died at her residence in Park Road, Twickenham, on the 26th ult., in her 78th year.

ROBERT BUNYAN, Esq., died on the 27th ult., at his residence, Greek place, Lincoln, aged 80. He was the last male descendant in a direct line from John Bunyan, the author of "Pilgrim's Progress."

The Rev. ROBERT MONTGOMERY, author of "The Omnipresence of the Deity," "Satan," and other works, and minister of Percy Street Chapel, died at Brighton on the 3rd inst., after a few days' illness, aged 48.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Esq., late M.P. for Macclesfield, died at his residence, Bromwyfia, St. Asaph, on the 29th ult., aged 55.

Admiral CARTHEW, died on the 28th ult., aged 86.

Baron ANSELM MEYER ROTHSCHILD, the eldest of the brothers at the head of the renowned family of that name, died at Frankfort on the 6th inst., of catarrhal fever, in his 75th year.

The Philologist MEIER, professor at Halle, died on the 5th inst.

Sir GEORGE BALLINGALL, M.D., Professor of Military Surgery in the University of Edinburgh, died on the 4th inst., at Altamont, near Blairgowrie. He had filled the chair of Military Surgery for thirty-two years.

Colonel BLOOMFIELD, who was lately despatched by the British Government to Moldavia, on business connected with the arrest of Coionel Turr, died almost suddenly on the day after his arrival, as is understood, from the fatigues of his journey. The Ottoman troops of the garrison and the Wallachian staff paid the usual military honours at his funeral.

Lieut.-General LINDSAY, of Balaearres, nephew of the fifth Earl of Balaearres, died at Genoa, on the 5th inst. For several years he was a representative of Fife, his native county.

Mr. SAMUEL ROGERS died at his house in St. James's Place, on the 18th inst., at the age of 93.

Colonel SIETHORP, the well-known member for Lincoln, at his house, in Eaton Square, on the 14th inst., aged 73.

Mr. JOHN COWLING, the High Steward of the University of Cambridge, and a distinguished member of the common law bar, died on the 19th inst., at his house in Albemarle Street, in his 54th year.

Baron DE BOUVILLE, formerly page to Louis XVI., and Knight of the Order of St. Louis, has just died near Rouen, at the age of 89.

Madame MONNIER, sister of Marshal Ney, and widow of the late receiver-General of the Meurthe, has recently expired at Nancy, at the age of 84. She was two years younger than the Marshal.

General D'ARMAONAC has just died at Bordeaux, at the age of 85. He took part in many of the great battles of the empire.

Dr. W. F. CHAMBERS, late Physician to the Queen, died at his residence, Holdre House, near Lyngton, Hampshire, on the 16th inst., in his 70th year.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE Overland India Mail has brought intelligence of some interest. The Soutal insurrection still continues; but the government appear, though tardily, to be taking effectual measures for its suppression.

The embassy to Ava was received by the king on the 17th September. The whole party rode to the palace on elephants; each member of the embassy paired off with a Burmese official of corresponding rank. The scene in the throne-room is thus described:—"The throne room is a large wooden building, wholly gilt inside, even to the ceiling, surmounted by a large spire, which in the distance is not unlike a church-steeple. A long clear space, in length about one hundred feet, and breadth about fifteen, brought us in the presence of the throne. We had Brussels carpets to sit down upon, or rather to lie down, as you are supposed to sit sideways, resting on your hand facing the throne, with your legs drawn close up under you,—a most uncomfortable position for one not used to it. After being seated in this way a few minutes, pann was brought in, in small gold cups, and offered to us; water, also, of a very disagreeable taste was given us. About six or seven minutes after this, the sliding-doors at the back of the throne opened, and the king appeared, with the first queen a few steps in his rear: they came up, and he seated himself, with his queen on his right and a little behind him. The queen had a China fan, with which she now and then fanned her lord and master; but neither the king nor the queen spoke a word. He was dressed in a gorgeous kind of over-coat, so studded with jewels that he could hardly walk under it, and a pagoda-shaped hat. The queen had much the same sort of dress, but a hat something like an inverted cornucopia. Immediately in front of the embassy were some very pretty children lying flat on their faces; these were the children of the royal family. In front and to the right was the heir apparent, and our supposed enemy. The letter of the governor-general was read out, the lists of presents, and the names of the members of the embassy. Presents were then made. Major Phayre received a valuable ruby ring and a gold cup. . . . Shortly after, the king retired, and we left the palace, went down and amused ourselves with looking at the tumblers, dancing girls, &c., and then visited the white elephant. Contrary to my expectations, he turns out to be a noble beast: he is

not white, but of a muddy colour; is about sixty years old; and had very fine jewels about him, the handsomest being on his forehead—a gold plate with a large emerald. The whole visit, from the time of entering the place to leaving it, occupied less than an hour."

The accounts from Oude are contradictory. It was uncertain whether the fanatical Moulavie, Ameen Ali, was marching on Fyzabad, or had returned broken in spirit and credit to Lucknow. But the danger of a religious war had greatly diminished.

The titular Nawab of the Carnatic died on the 7th October, at Madras, in the thirty-first year of his age. His life had been spent in rioting and debauchery. He was the last of his line.

The West India Mail has brought advices from *Jamaica* to the 27th November. The legislature was still in session when the packet left, and appeared very dilatory in proceeding with the business of legislation. They had passed a Clergy bill, with a duration of fourteen years, whereby a saving of 12½ per cent. on the salaries paid to the clergy has been effected, or about 3000*l.* per annum. A message from the governor had been presented to the house, accompanied by a despatch from the colonial secretary, proposing to send out geologist and mineralogist to the West India colonies, at the expense of the imperial government, providing each colony would pay 20*s.* per diem towards his travelling expense, when actually engaged in such labour. The proposition had been agreed to by the house.

There are advices from *Melbourne* to the 13th of September. Trade in the colony was in a depressed state. Diggers were still producing rich yields. The price of gold was 32. 16*s.* per ounce. At Geelong complaints were being made of the difficulty of obtaining title-deeds to crown grants. A meeting was held there on Sept. 10th, to make arrangements for sending a number of the unemployed single females to different portions of the interior. Ballarat was fixed on as the place to start the experiment.

Accounts from *New Zealand* to the 12th August state that the colony was prosperous and flourishing.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

From the accounts from the *Crimea* it appears that military operations are suspended, probably not to be resumed till the spring. The hostile forces continue to occupy their positions in Sebastopol and its neighbourhood, which have been already described. The following is now the staff of the British army in the Crimea:—Commander-in-Chief, Sir W. Codrington, K.C.B. Aides-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief: Capt. the Hon. H. W. Campbell, Rifle Brigade; and Capt. Ponsonby, Grenadier Guards. Chief of the Staff, Major-General C. A. Windham, C. B. Aides-de-Camp to the Chief of the Staff, Major Lewis and Captain Erle. Quartermaster-General, Col. the Hon. Percy Herbert. Assistant Quartermaster-General, Col. the Hon. A. Hardinge. Deputy Assistant Quartermasters-General: Capt. Willes, 77th; Capt. Torrens, 23rd; Capt. Vacher, 33rd; and Capt. Hammersley, 14th. Military Secretary, Lieut.-Col. Blanc. Assistant Military Secretary, Major Boyle, 89th. Surgeon to Commander-in-Chief, Dr. F. Smith. Adjutant-General, Col. Pakenham, C.B. Deputy Adjutant-General, and Deputy Assistant Adjutants-General: Lieut.-Col. Kennedy, 18th; Capt. Thompson, 4th; Capt. Luard, 77th; Major Dowbiggin. Principal Medical Officer, Dr. Hall. The escort consists of a troop of the 11th Hussars, under Capt. Vansittart, and of two companies of the Rifle Brigade, under Major Fyers. Col. Wetherall succeeds Col. M'Murdo in the command

of the Land Transport Corps till the latter can return to his command.

The disposition of the Russian troops is stated to be as follows. There are still eleven divisions of infantry remaining in the south, two having gone north. Immediately after the fall of Sebastopol, when the French went down towards the Upper Belbek, a great number of troops were sent that way, so that from the pass of Aitodor down to Albared and Kutshub Sioren there were seven divisions, the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 13th reserve; and the 15th, 16th, and 17th were on the Mackenzie heights, the 4th and 5th at Inkermann, the 12th in the Sevrenaia, and the 11th on the Belbek. When the demonstrations from Eupatoria forced the Russians to show front in that direction, the 4th and 5th were sent there; the 11th came down from the Belbek to take their place; and the 8th was sent to replace the latter. Since the fall of Sebastopol, not a man of regular troops is said to have arrived in the Crimea—only about 20,000 militia. These latter were of those enrolled in April last. Probably, in order to work on the religious feelings of the new conscripts, they were all enrolled during the holy week—twenty-three in 1000. They were of all ages, from seventeen to sixty—boys and old men—no distinction was made; whether they were married or not, they were taken according to the will of their owners, who naturally sent

those who were of least use to them. The new conscripts were drilled for a month, and then sent off. They are dressed like the other Russian soldiers. They form the laughing-stock of the regular army, and are bullied by the inferior officers, although they say the generals are kind to them. The official announcement from St. Petersburg, that the Russian army in the Crimea is provided with provisions for eight months is, to a certain extent, borne out by information gleaned upon the spot. There are said to be considerable stores of provisions heaped up in Simphéropol and Duvenkoi, where the Russian reserves are. The Russians seem rather anxious about the Tchongar road, and they have thrown up batteries near the bridge, as well as on both the peninsulas which it connects. The Tchongar and not the Perekop road is said to be their main channel of communication with the interior, which is not at all surprising, as this latter is more exposed, owing to the contiguity of the allied forces at Eupatoria.

The Mixed Commission appointed to take an inventory of the contents of Sebastopol met first on the 15th September. Their second sitting was held on the 25th, when a detailed list of the things captured was laid before them. "The catalogue of these articles," says the *Moniteur de la Flotte*, "is certainly a most extraordinary one. Thus it shows that in the Malakhoff and the Redan nearly 3000 pieces of cannon of every calibre were found, and 120,000 lb. of gunpowder. In Sebastopol itself 128 cannons of bronze were found, and 3711 of iron. These pieces are divided into equal lots for France and England, paying due regard to the different calibres, and that one-half should be sent to France, and the other half to Great Britain, with the exception of two magnificent bronze guns which have been offered to General de la Marmora; but that all should remain in Sebastopol, and in the redoubts and fortifications of Kamiesh and Balaklava, till such time as they were not required for the defence of the place, when each government might do what it liked with its own share. These decisions, taken conformably to the first act of the convention, leave the valuation of the pieces out of the question; but by the fourth article of the same convention it is agreed that the value of the booty, &c., shall be divided proportionally, according to the number of combatants whom each power had in line. Thus the effective force of English and Sardinian having been, on September 8, 63,741 effective men, and ours 120,705, we take two-thirds and they one-third. The commission afterwards passed on to the partition of the other matériel taken, and divided the following into three parts—two for France, and one-third for England as before, with the understanding that they are to remain for the supply of the defence:—307,314 round shot; shell, 101,155; canister cases, 24,080; gunpowder, 625,000lb.; ball-cartridges, for mu-kets and carbines, 470,000 in good condition, and 160,000 damaged; waggons, 80; yaws, 6; logs of lignum-vite, 500; anchors of port moorings, 400; anchors of different sizes, 90; grapplings and small anchors, 50; chains for anchors, 200 yards; old copper for sheathings, 104,000 lb.; old ropes, 100,000lb.; water casks, 300; new ropes of different sizes, 50,000lb.; pulleys, 400; spars, 40; tools, 300; bar iron and steel, 1,460,000lb.; iron wire, 400lb.; iron checks, 320lb.; sheet iron, 16,000 lb.; tin-plate, 14,000lb.; copper, 120,000lb.; nails, 6000lb.; firewood, a large quantity; pitch and tar, 200 barrels; barrels of paint, 150; small boilers, weighing 6,000lb.; the remains of a steam-engine of 220-horse power, taken out of a steamer burnt by the Russians; large copper boilers, weighing 100,000lb.; 8; old copper, 100,000lb.; copper screws, 10,000lb.; old iron, 60,000lb.; large bells, 6; small bells, 10; hospital beds, 350; iron forges, in great numbers; main tackles, 12; coal, 2000 ton; steam-engines of 30-horse power, for the basins, 2; large pumps, for the basins, 3; iron boilers, 3; 1 high-pressure engine of 16-horse power, for the basins; iron cranes, 17; and engine of 12-horse power, in the military bakery; 2 dredging-machines of 30-horse power, unserviceable; a still, a clock, six marble statues, two sphinxes, a large basso-relievo; biscuit, 500 tons; flour, 150; barley, 9; buckwheat, 117; oats, 18; millet, 54; wheat, 20; peas, 1½; salt meat, 50; wheat in the granaries, 503 quarters, &c." The bread-stuffs were

declared unfit for the use of the allied armies, and were sent to Eupatoria for the Tartars. As it was impossible to divide the wood of the houses and buildings to be demolished, the city itself was divided; and to the English was allotted the eastern, to the French the western portion. Two Turkish field-pieces found in the arsenal were restored to the Sultan.

The accounts of the condition of the army are very satisfactory. The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 23rd ult., says: "Our first wintry day came on the 21st instant. During the previous night it froze sharply, and some snow fell. The frost was accompanied by a biting north wind, which lasted throughout the day, but subsided again on the following night. Snow was also for the first time visible on the higher peaks and ridges of the mountains to the eastward, where the numerous tributary streams are found which afterwards unite to form the rivers Belbek, Katcha, and Alma. Last year the snow appeared in these situations much earlier, and the army was wholly unprepared to meet the exigencies of the cold season. Nothing could offer a more striking contrast than the different circumstances of the troops now. The greater part of the winter clothing had already arrived, and was deposited in the divisional or regimental stores, and the first day on which cold of any severity was felt, a telegraphic message sent from head-quarters round to the several divisions was all that was required to cause the clothing to be issued. A general order of the same date directed the winter clothing to be taken into wear. The articles distributed comprise a most excellent tweed coat, lined throughout with rabbit or cat-skin, the same as was last year served out to the officers; a larger and still warmer sheepskin coat, two pairs of thick worsted drawers, two Jerseys, one pair of worsted gloves, one worsted cholera belt, one pair of long waterproof boots, one waterproof sheet, one pair of worsted stockings, one pair of socks of the same quality, and one seal-skin cap to turn down and completely cover the ears and neck. No one, I am disposed to think, will charge Lord Panmure with having neglected a single article that the health or comfort of even the rawest recruit now in camp can require. The men themselves are loud in the expression of their satisfaction. The huts are rapidly increasing in number over the camps. The weather is again favourable for erecting them, and for all the other field works and winter preparations. This day and yesterday, November the 22nd and 23rd, the weather has been delightful. The air has been remarkably clear and transparent; the sun has exerted considerable power, and there has been no wind. The nights have been frosty and cold, but bright and moonlit. . . . General Codrington is directing attention to the interior economy of the army, and enforcing some very stringent regulations affecting its discipline and police arrangements. A code of rules has been published in a general order of Nov. 23, by which the system of punishment for soldiers sentenced to undergo confinement with hard labour will be very materially changed. It will be assimilated, as far as is practicable in a camp, to the system pursued in the military prisons in England. Hitherto the duties and circumstances of the troops have been such as to prevent in a great measure the ordinary punishments of offenders from being carried into effect, and this fact has doubtless had its influence in rendering many men of indifferent character very reckless in their conduct. The great increase of late in the crime of drunkenness has, perhaps, particularly attracted attention to the necessity of a stronger control being exerted. Attention has also been directed to the numerous canteen men and other camp followers. All strangers are to obtain permission to remain with the army, and this ticket of residence must be always kept in possession. . . . It is well known that numerous robberies have been committed in camp from time to time, the robbers escaping in some of the trading vessels to Constantinople, where all trace would be lost, notwithstanding the most diligent search. Deserters and others have also left by the same means. Any one used to be at liberty to go on board ship at Balaklava, and leave the port without inquiry. By arrangements with the naval authorities this will be prevented in future. No person will now be allowed to embark on board a trans-

port or other vessel without an authority, and the captain or any one on board receiving and harbouring a stranger without a passport will be liable to immediate punishment of a severe character. An office has been established at Balaklava for the registry of the names of all persons coming and going, and for the issue of permits of residence and passports. One of the Provost-Marshal has been appointed to attend to this particular duty. A branch, under the direction of a Provost-Sergeant, will be established at Kazatch Bay. Police stations are being erected in certain situations about the camp, one being at head-quarters, and these will be marked by lights at night. Some of the Marshal's assistants will always be in attendance. With the aid of the electric telegraph, and by means of other arrangements for speedy communication, the effective working of the establishment will be secured, and order and other advantages obtained in the camps. The troops in camp remain very healthy. All the cavalry have now left, with the exception of the 11th Hussars, who are to remain throughout the winter, the 4th Dragoon Guards, the Greys, and the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons. One troop of the latter regiment has already embarked." The *Times* correspondent writes also on the 22nd. "Our allies share with us the labours of destroying the docks, which will be ready to go at any moment we desire. The Sappers experience great difficulty in forming the mines, in consequence of the water running in on them from the clay; but with their usual energy they worked away, and formed the mines, which will contain eight small and two large magazines. It is expected that the explosions must disintegrate the masonry and tumble the stonework into the basins. The English works are under the charge of Captain Nicholson, R.E., and Mr. Deane has lent the use of his batteries for the purpose of firing the mines, and will undertake that part of the operation. Drunkenness is much on the decline; the petty thefts have been traced in nearly every instance to natives or camp followers, and on the whole there never was a better conducted army in the field placed under similar circumstances. We are to have horse races on a grand scale early in December."

The latest official intelligence from Sebastopol is contained in the following despatch from General Codrington: "Sebastopol, Dec. 4.—My Lord,—The enemy continue to fire occasionally, and sometimes heavily, on parts of the town. They must have expended a considerable quantity of valuable ammunition without causing us any loss or inconvenience. The enclosed Casualty Return is the first of the sort I have had occasion to report to your lordship. It may seem unimportant to refer to the state of roads and weather here, but their condition affects the essential communication and well-being of the army. The winter broke upon us suddenly on the 26th and 27th with snow, and has varied with gales and rain; and a very deep state of the ground has damaged all communications. Constant presence of labourers and constant attention are requisite, and are being given to the road, which, from a peculiarity of soil and condition, was worked into holes, but which is, and will continue to be, of the greatest service to the army and its supplies.—I have, &c., W. J. CODRINGTON, General Commanding.—P.S. I beg leave also to forward the weekly report of Dr. Hall, the principal medical officer, by which your Lordship will perceive that the general state of health of the army continues favourable."

The *Times* correspondent in Mingrelia furnishes an account of the battle on the Ingour; which took place on the 6th, not the 5th, of November, as reported in the official telegraphic despatches. The march of the army through the forests and swamps that extend between the Godava and the Ingour presented great difficulties. The correspondent referred to joined the advancing troops beyond the Godava, and found them "a miscellaneous multitude straggling by devious paths through the tangled underwood, or ploughing their way through deep mud."—"There were infantry and cavalry in long lines winding between the magnificent oak and beech trees of which the forest is composed; Abasians on wiry ponies dodging in and out, and getting past every-

body; mules and pack-horses, in awkward predicaments, stopping up the road, on whose devoted heads were showered an immense variety of oaths by their drivers, who in their turn were sworn at by the rest of the world. There were some batteries of artillery, which looked so hopelessly embedded that nothing short of British energy, as impersonated in the young Englishman who commanded, could have extricated them. There were broken-down baggage-wagons and broken-down mules, and everything but broken-down men. Here and there a Pasha was squatting by the roadside, indulging in his nargileh, enjoying his 'kief,' and watching placidly the exertions of his troops." The whole force—the numbers of which are not given—arrived on the right bank of the Ingour on the 4th of November, and Omar Pasha reached their camp on the 3rd. The enemy were posted on the left bank, covering the forts. Their right, supported by the fort of Ruchi, and covered with wood, faced the river at a point where its bed was two hundred yards broad, but where the stream was much narrower. Their centre was posted behind an intrenchment, opposite another practicable crossing. The left held a ford still further down the river. Opposite the fort of Ruchi, by the direction of Omar Pasha, the Turks threw up two batteries, on the night of the 4th, with the view of occupying the attention of the enemy by their fire, while he crossed the river lower down. This movement was successfully accomplished on the 6th. One column, headed by Rifles under Colonel Ballard, the whole commanded by Colonel Simmonds, effected the passage of the river and attacked the intrenchment; while Osman Pasha, with a second column, in the face of a heavy fire, and in spite of a strong current, forded the stream lower down, and routed the enemy at the point of the bayonet. Colonel Simmonds carried the intrenchment, and the Russians fled, leaving behind five guns. Here, however, his aide-de-camp, Captain Dynock, was killed at the head of his battalion. Routed at the points assailed, the enemy evacuated the fort of Ruchi, and retired in the direction of Kutais. The Turkish loss is estimated at 400 killed and wounded. The Russian loss is not estimated, but it is stated that there were 300 dead on the field.

A despatch from Admiral Lyons, dated Kazatch Bay, December 1st, has been received at the Admiralty. The admiral encloses a letter from Captain Sherard Osborn, of the Vesuvius, dated the 24th ultimo, stating that, as the formation of ice had commenced in the Sea of Azoff, and as he had been informed by both M. Gropcevitch, the Austrian merchant, charged with the shipment of corn in Austrian vessels, and by the Russian authorities at Mariaupol, that all chance of neutral vessels obtaining cargoes this year was at an end, he had withdrawn after Kertch with a squadron under his orders, after assuring himself that no merchant vessels remained in that sea.

Intelligence has been received of the fall of *Kars*, after its long heroic defences. The place surrendered to General Mouravieff, on the 28th of November. Vasif Pasha, eight other Pashas, General Williams, and the whole of the garrison are prisoners of war. The particulars of this unfortunate event have not yet been received.

The *Times* gives a comprehensive view of the state of the war at the conclusion of this year: we quote it, slightly abridged. "It is reassuring to observe how great has been the revolution in the British army within a single twelvemonth. The year which is about to close has been so filled with great events that it is difficult to believe only the usual term has passed away since first the story of Balaklava and Seutari fixed the attention of the world. The year 1855 began in calamity and apprehension that almost deepened to despair; it is about to end in satisfaction, if not in triumph, with well-grounded hope for the future, and a consciousness that we are at least beginning to deserve success. What is the condition of the British camp in the closing month of the present year? Heavy rains have fallen, and the roads have been severely tried, but they have, on the

whole, stood well. The railway is there, though the destruction of trucks has made it nearly useless. But, as there is no longer any shot or shell to be sent up to the front, there seems to have been no difficulty in supplying the camp with all necessary provisions. In fact, recent complaints have rather indicated too sufficient a supply of some commodities. Drunkenness is on the decline, or, indeed, almost extinguished, since a razzia of the authorities has carried away a great number of the canteens whence the dangerous liquor was procured. The men are at rest, or only occupied in providing for their own subsistence. The work of the army is not too severe; in fact, the culprits 'who enjoy moderate exercise in stone-breaking' are observed to be more healthy than their fellows. In short, it cannot be denied that the British army is now, on the whole, as well cared for, as healthy, and in as good order as can be expected of any body of troops. Our own soldiers are not alone in their increased comforts and cheerfulness. The armies of France and Sardinia are supplied with necessaries on a scale far beyond what the French commissariat could reach during the past winter. Then our allies, though generally successful in their preparations, could not wholly avoid the effects of cold and damp acting on the weary watchers in the trenches. Although there are no trenches this winter, yet the men are more warmly clad, and will, no doubt, pass the period of cold weather in health and comfort. The main camp before Sebastopol is the centre of a number of isolated stations. From these generally the accounts are favourable. Kinburn is occupied exclusively by the French. The narrow entrance of the Bay of Cherson may be frozen for some weeks, but the place is well provisioned, the old works have been improved and new ones erected. The possession of this place is a pledge that operations against the great Russian building-yards will not be forgotten when the retreat or rout of the Crimean army shall have left the allies at liberty. The healthiness and accessibility of this spot make it one of the most valuable conquests that the allied arms have effected. Far on the east again, at the narrow entrance of the Sea of Azoff, the Turkish Contingent has been landed with its British officers. We have before mentioned the complaints of this body; whether its present destination has been wisely chosen we will not decide, but it is not doubtful that, led and disciplined as it is, it will be powerful enough to repel any assault of the Russians during the winter. Provisions will be dear and access difficult. It is probable that the expense of supporting the force will be very great; but it is likely to retain its health, and to be increased in efficiency by the time its active services are required in the ensuing spring. Eupatoria calls for no particular remark; it is well garrisoned and entrenched, and may be regarded as unsailable. Here, then, at the close of the second year of war, are the allies established on four important points of the Russian territory. Not only by their ships, but by land garrisons, they hold the mouths of the Dneiper and the Don, while their grand army, numerous, well fed, well equipped, and sanguine of success, waits only for the fitting season to march to new victories. It has been doubted whether the present war has developed any distinguished genius; that is a question which time must answer; but this we can assert, that, though mediocrity and inexperience may have commanded, yet the vigour of two free nations has won larger successes than have ever attended the first campaign of any European war."

A despatch from Lieutenant Geneste to the Admiralty, giving an account of the *Hango Massacre*, has been published. It shows that the murderers of the boat's crews were not irregular militia, but grenadiers of the regiment of which the King of Prussia is Colonel; that Lieutenant Geneste and Mr. Sullivan were bound tightly with cords after their capture, and laid on their backs in a cart; that the seamen, wounded and un wounded, were compelled to walk by the Cossacks, who struck them with their lances; and that the officers of a Russian regiment at Eckness, disgusted with the treatment of the prisoners, cut the cords that bound them. One Russian officer present at the capture shook

his fist in the face of Geneste, who was at the time held by eight or ten men. It is clear from this despatch that the ambush was prepared.

Commercial advices from *France* state, that the retail trade of Paris has recovered some activity, in consequence of the approaching new year. The *magazines de nouveautés* in particular are visited by numerous purchasers. The manufacturers have also received important orders from abroad, which will enable them to give occupation to their workmen for the winter. The accounts from the provincial industrial districts, however, are not so satisfactory. At Rouen, Mulhouse, Roubaix, and Amiens, manufacturers complain of the high price of raw materials, and of being under the necessity of disposing of their goods on unprofitable terms. The sale of grain is becoming daily more difficult, since it is evident that the purchases made in the United States, Spain, and other countries, amply supply the supposed deficiency in the last crop. Speculators who had laid in a considerable stock are now anxious to sell off, but find with difficulty buyers at the present rates. Wheat has experienced a slight decline, and in the departments the fall is general. The accounts from the principal cattle markets and fairs of the interior mention a diminution in prices. In Limousin, for instance, fat oxen and pigs sell at 10c. lower per kilogramme than last December. The wine trade at Bercy is pretty active, Paris and its environs having of late purchased largely. Prices, however, remain firm. There is no foundation whatever in the report, published by some foreign journals, that the French government intend to increase the duties on tobacco, salt, and other articles.

A letter from *Moldavia*, of the 10th of December, states that the Hospodar Gregory Ghika has proclaimed the entire abolition of serfdom in his Principality. This important act was carried into execution on November 28.

An Act of Excommunication has been performed at Coblenz, of which a German journal gives the following curious account:—Coblenz, Dec. 12. On Sunday we were witnesses of a ceremony which has not been performed for centuries, viz., an excommunication, the subject being M. Sonntag, a merchant at Coblenz, who was divorced from his first wife, and eight years ago was married by the civil authorities only to his present one. Last summer, M. Sonntag was commanded by the clergy to separate from his wife, and, not obeying their decree, he was on Sunday excommunicated. Dean Kramentz, after preaching a sermon against the civil marriage, put on some other sacerdotal garments, and, accompanied by two clergymen bearing wax tapers, read, standing in the middle of the church, the sentence of excommunication against M. Sonntag and his lady. He then extinguished the tapers, saying that the individuals named were not worthy to see the day of the Lord, and throwing the candlesticks to the ground, breaking them to pieces, exclaimed, "Let the bells sound the funeral knell!" We immediately heard the sound of bells and the chants for the dead. The dean, in conclusion, proclaimed that no one whosoever was to hold relations with the excommunicated, to salute them, &c. This prohibition has not had much effect, for their house has been filled ever since with visitors, and at night they have been serenaded.

Accounts from *St. Petersburg* state that a Russian loan of fifty million of roubles (nearly 8,000,000*l.*) is issued at 8*2*, bearing five per cent. interest. A money panic has commenced in Russia. At Moscow, Nishni Novgorod, Astrakan, and other places, bank notes are refused. People are hiding money. The Russian government has ordained that to facilitate payments from the state treasury the normal proportion of bullion to be held by the bank against notes in circulation shall be diminished. It was feared that the payment of the interest of the public debt will be suspended.

At the Grand Council at St. Petersburg it has been resolved to fortify that city and Moscow, and commissions of engineers have been appointed to make plans of defence. General Dehn is the president of the com-

mission for St. Petersburg, and General Toddieben of that Moscow.

A letter from Hamburg, in the *Moniteur* of the 7th, says: "According to accounts from St. Petersburg, the new levy which is now in course of execution throughout almost the whole empire meets with considerable difficulties. In the parts of the empire bordering on Prussia, for instance, the greatest discontent is expressed. Every proprietor who is called on to furnish seventy men is subjected by that proceeding—as each man is estimated to be worth 1000 silver roubles—to a tribute of 70,000 roubles (the rouble is worth nearly 4fr.), and to this must be added about 7000 more in money, for the expense of the first equipment. An idea may be formed from this fact of the charges imposed on the country by this war. Desertions are frequent, and the misery must be very severe to force men to adopt a step which is attended with such danger. The imperial bank of Odessa is not the only one that has suspended payments. The same has taken place in other government establishments of the same kind. When persons present themselves to demand cash for notes, the clerk enquires their object for so doing, as paper money will answer their purpose as well. If the person persists, he is then told that his application must be made known to the superior authorities before it can be complied with. This announcement, the meaning of which, in a country like Russia, is well known, is more than sufficient to dissuade even the most daring from making any further demand."

The *Prussian Chambers* were opened by the King on the 29th ult. The following is an extract from his Majesty's speech:—"Gentlemen,—The conflict between several European powers is not yet at an end. Our fatherland, however, continues to be the abode of peace. I trust in God that it will remain so, and that I shall succeed in preserving the honour and standing of Prussia without inflicting upon our country the heavy sacrifices of war. I am proud to say that I know of no

people so well prepared for war, or more ready for sacrifices than my own, whenever its honour or interests are really in danger. This proud consciousness, however, imposes upon me the duty, while abiding faithfully by obligations already contracted, not to enter into further engagements, the political and military liabilities of which are not to be estimated beforehand. In the attitude assumed by Prussia, Austria and Germany behold a valid security for the further maintenance of that independent position which is equally conducive to the attainment of an equitable and lasting peace and compatible with sincere good wishes for all."

Accounts from *Berlin* state, that the pacific propositions of Austria have been communicated to the Prussian government by Prince Esterhazy, Austrian minister to the court of Berlin—a relation of the Count Esterhazy, who is ambassador from the court of Vienna at St. Petersburg. The Prussian government (it is added) will use its influence with the Czar in support of the propositions.

The intelligence from the *United States* relates chiefly to party struggles for preponderance in the elections. There was an immense Know-Nothing torch-light demonstration at Washington on the 23rd ult., when six hundred delegates from Baltimore were present. A grand Know-Nothing mass meeting was held at Louisville, Kentucky, on the 27th ult., in which delegates from Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Illinois, and Kentucky took part. A series of resolutions, reaffirming the principles of the party as enunciated by the Philadelphia convention, was adopted. A bill has been introduced into the legislature of Georgia proposing to confiscate, for the benefit of owners of fugitive slaves, the debts due by citizens of Georgia to citizens of the state to which slaves may have escaped, if the authorities of that state refuse to deliver up the slaves upon claim of their rightful owners.

All apprehension of a rupture between England and the United States is at an end.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

An important item in the literature of the past month has been furnished by books adapted to the season, and of such illustrated gift-volumes the principal have been an edition of *Longfellow's Poems*, with a very rich collection of woodcuts after drawings by Mr. Gilbert; a volume on the *Campaign in the Crimea*, by Mr. Brackenbury, with forty plates from the drawings of Mr. Simpson; a collection of poems about the Sabbath, with landscape views by Mr. Birket Foster printed in colours, entitled *Sabbath Bells Chimed by the Poets*; an edition of Goldsmith's *Traveller*, with many fine etchings by the same artist; a little book of *The Christmas-Tree and Other Tales*, adapted from the German by Mrs. Fanny Kemble; a splendidly illustrated *Moore's Irish Melodies*, with drawings by the most celebrated of modern artists and academicians; a cheap republication of Otto Speckter's *Puss in Boots*; and a volume of Greek Fairy Tales, written by Mr. Kingsley for his children, and illustrated by himself, called *The Heroes*. To these we may add another book remarkable for its wealth of illustration, but belonging to more permanent literature. Mr. Ferguson has published an *Illustrated Handbook of Architecture*, in two volumes, containing 850 woodcuts very beautifully executed.

Mr. Macaulay's third and fourth volumes of the *History of England* claim of course our first mention among the important publications of the past month; and other works of some interest have followed in their wake. Lord Brougham has collected his *Contributions to the Edinburgh Review*. Dean Liddell, of Christchurch, has published in two octavos a *History of Rome*, from the earliest times to the establishment of the Empire. Mr. N. A. Woods, the special correspondent of the *Morning Herald* at the seat of war, has written an historical sketch of *The Past Campaign*, with very interesting extracts from the private journal of Major Butler of Silistria. Mrs. Henry Dubrrey has

published *A Journal kept during the Russian War* by herself. A second volume of Mr. Thackeray's *Miscellanies* has been issued. Mr. Poulton has written in a single stout octavo *A New History of England*, which deals almost exclusively with the development of opinion in each reign. A translation has been made of the chief letters in *The Confidential Correspondence of Napoleon Bonaparte with his brother Joseph*. The eighth volume has been issued of *Works of Dugald Stewart*, containing the first volume of his *Treatise on Political Economy*. And Dean Milman has issued the fourth, fifth, and sixth volumes of his *History of Latin Christianity*, carrying the subject down to the Pontificate of Nicolas V., in the middle of the fifteenth century.

Among works of a more miscellaneous kind may be mentioned two octavo volumes of *Essays on Principles of Government*, being the *Meditations on Exile* of Mr. William Smith O'Brien; a full and detailed account of *Five Years in Damascus*, by the Rev. J. L. Porter, a highly intelligent observer; a little volume, by Mr. Max Müller, on *The Languages of the Seat of War in the East*; a translation, from Madame Ida Pfeiffer, of *A Lady's Second Journey Round the World*; a fanciful biography, by Mr. Henry Mayhew, of the Youth of Humphry Davy, entitled *The Wonders of Science*; a new and cheap edition of *The Vision and Creed of Piers Ploughman*, by Mr. Thomas Wright, being the first published of a proposed Library of Old Authors, to be issued by Mr. Russell Smith; two volumes of *Eastern Travel*, called *The Wanderer in Arabia*, by Mr. Geo. T. Lowth; a collection of original Eastern Stories, forming an Arabian Entertainment, by Mr. George Meredith, with the title of *The Shaving of Shagpat*; and three romances, *The House of Elmore*, Mrs. Margaret Oliphant's *Zaidee*, and Miss Kavanagh's *Rachel Gray*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BULLION MARKET.

Bullion in Bank of England on 20th inst., £11,306,340.

LATEST LONDON PRICES.

	s.	d.	s.	d.	
Gold, stan. per oz.	£3	17	9	1	
Silver bars, stan. per oz.	5	12	Mexican dollars, "	5	0

LATEST COMPARATIVE VALUE OF GOLD IN FOREIGN MARKETS TO LONDON PRICE.

Paris	0·18 prem.	New York	par.
Hamburg	0·18 prem.		

Bank Rate of Discount, 7 per cent.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three per Cent. Reduced	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$
New Three per Cents	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities, Jan., 1860	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock, 8 per cent.	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	205	205
Exchequer Bills, March	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.	11 dis.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.
India Bonds	2 dis.	7 dis.	3 dis.

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.	Receipts since Jan. 1.
100	Brighton & S. Coast	96	94	94-96	603,181
11-6-3	Blackwall	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3	60,587
100	Caledonian	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	566,941
100	Edinb. and Glasgow	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	50	50-51	1,76,731
20	Eastern Counties	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ -9	986,554
100	Gt. Sn. & Wn. (Irel.)	104	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	102-104	284,600
100	Great Northern	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	88-91	93,707
100	Great Western	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	52 $\frac{1}{2}$ -53	1,125,743
100	Lancash. & Yorksh.	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	76-77	808,417
100	London & N. Westn.	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93-94 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,471,249
100	London & S. Westn.	87	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	85	638,710
100	Midland	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	63-64	1,209,462
100	South-East. & Dover	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56-57 $\frac{1}{2}$	304,739

FOREIGN LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

FUNDS.	RAILWAYS.
Belgian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., —	East Belgian Junct., 3-24-dis.
Brazilian 5 per cent., —	Great W. of Canada, 24-24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chilian 6 per cent., —	Great Luxembourg, 21-22
Danish 5 per cent., —	Northern of France, 33-35 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 23 per cent., 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ -64 $\frac{1}{2}$	Norwegian Trunk Pfr., 45-48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 4 p. cent., 94-5	Paris and Orleans, 44-46
Mexican 3 per cent., 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -4	Paris and Lyons, 45-51 $\frac{1}{2}$
Peruvian 4 per cent., 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Ronen, —
Portuguese 4 per cent., —	Ronen and Havre, 31-4
Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 89 $\frac{1}{2}$	West Flanders, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ -30
Spanish 3 per cent., —	West of France, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ -30
Sardinian 5 per cent., 89 $\frac{1}{2}$	

MINES.

Linares	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Quartz Rock	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nouveau Monde	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	St. John Del Roy	—

COLONIAL SHARE LIST.—LATEST PRICES.

MINES.	BANKS.
Australian	1-2
Colonial Gold	—
Great Nugget	1-3
Port Philip	—
South Australian	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -6

RAILWAYS.

Bombay and Baroda	Australasian Pacific
East Indian	—
Do., Extension	Australian Royal Mail
Indian Peninsula	Eastern Steam Nav.
Madras	General Serew St. Ship

MISCELLANEOUS COMPANIES.

Australian Agricultural 28-30	North Brit. Australian
Van Diemen's Land	Peel River Land
South Australian Land	Scottish Austr. Invest.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS.

CORN—IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGE.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Nov. 24	82	1	40	11	28
Dec. 1	83	1	42	3	28
— 8	81	6	42	5	28
— 15	79	11	41	3	27
					10
					55
					4
					51
					8
					49
					1

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS—(Continued.)

LATEST LONDON MARKET PRICES.

	s.	s.	l. s.	l. s.
Malt, Pale, per qr.	74	83	4	6 to 10
Malting Barley	38	40	4	8
Oats, best,	34	35	—	—
Wheat, White,	65	90	1	10 to 11

Flour—
Town made, per sck. 73-75
Country household 57-66
American, per barl. 42-46

Indian Corn, per qr. 46-48
BREAD, per 4 lbs. d. d.
Best Wheat 11 | to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ | | |

Household 9 | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ | | |

CATTLE—
Beasts, per st. 3 to 4 to 10
Calves 4 | 4 to 5 | 0 | |

Sheep 3 | 4 to 5 | 0 | |

Pigs 3 | 10 to 5 | 0 | |

Wool, per lb.—

South Downs 1 | 0 to 1 | 3 | |

Kentish fleeces 1 | 0 to 1 | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ | |

German Prima 2 | 6 | 3 to 6 | |

Australian 1 | 3 | 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ | |

Cape 0 | 7 | 1 to 7 | |

Spanish 1 | 1 | 2 to 0 | |

METALS.

Copper, Cakes, per ton, 126 $\frac{1}{2}$

Iron, Pigs, 31. 15s. to 55. 5s.

Rails, St. 5s. Lead, English

Pig, 29. 10s. Steel, Swedish

Keel, 19. 10s. to 19. 10s.

Tin, English block, 125 $\frac{1}{2}$

Banca, 130 $\frac{1}{2}$. Spelter, 32. 0s.

Quicksilver, per lb., 1s. 10d.

PROVISIONS.

CHEESE—Cheshire, per cwt., 60s. to 80s.

Wiltshire, 54s. to 72s.

Dutch, 50s. to 62s.

HAMS—York, 88s. to 116s.

Irish, 70s. to 86s.

Westphalia, 70s. to 74s.

BEEF—Mid. to prime, p. 8lb., 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.

MUTTON—Mid. to prime, per 8lb., 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.

PORK, p. 8lb., 3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.

VEAL, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.

LAMB, 6s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

POTATOES, per ton, Scotch reds, 60s. to 95s.; Regts, 78s. to 110s.

EMIGRATION RECORD.

DEPARTURES FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1855.	Australian Colonies.	British America.	United States.	Other places.	Total.
To Oct. 31.....	53,813	15,280	86,851	2,393	158,037
November.....	2,780	371	5,305	284	8,740
Total to Nov. 30	56,593	15,651	92,156	2,677	167,077

CURRENT RATES OF PASSAGE AND FREIGHT TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS PER SAILING VESSEL.

London and Liverpool.	Cabrio.	Intermediate.	Steerage.	Goods per 40 Cubic feet.
Melbourne	£30 to £60	£20 to £30	£15 to £21	40s. to 45s.
Sydney	40	60	18 to 32	30 to 40
Adelaide	30	65	20 to 35	30 to 40
Hobart Tp.	40	65	25 to 35	30 to 40

The Publication of the
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF
CURRENT EVENTS

Will be Discontinued with the present Number, which completes the Volume for the Year. The previous Volumes, beginning with 1850, may be had of all Booksellers, and at all Railway Stations.

